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# South and East Asia Report

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14 October 1981

## SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

EMBASSY SECURITY ENHANCEMENT--Canberra--The Foreign Affairs Department will spend \$850,000 this year on security equipment for overseas missions, more than double its last year's amount. The increased spending is part of a five-year program to drastically improve diplomatic security. The money will be used for sophisticated alarm systems and other protective devices. Security of classified information and communications will also be strengthened. [Excerpt] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 4 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 4220/6001

FOREIGN MINISTER NOTES NEED FOR NONALIGNED UNITY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Sep 81 pp 1, 12

[Text] Foreign Minister Prof. M. Shamsul Huq has stressed the need for further strengthening and consolidating the Non-aligned unity and solidarity to make the movement "a still stronger force" for world peace and progress reports BSS.

In a message on the occasion of observance today (Tuesday) of "the day of Non-alignment" to mark the 20th anniversary of founding of the movement the Foreign Minister reaffirmed Bangladesh's unswerving adherence to the principles of Non-alignment.

He paid tributes to the founding members who 20 years back on September 1 inspired by a common determination and vision launched the movement at the historic Belgrade Summit to chart out a new path of peace freedom and neutrality steering clear of the power blocs to promote peaceful and equitable relations among all nations.

On this auspicious day he said, we hope all member countries will take a solemn vow to further consolidate and strengthen the Non-aligned unity and solidarity to make the movement a still stronger force for the world peace and progress.

Prof. Huq said, "the day of Non-alignment" is being observed today in Non-aligned countries all over the world as well as at the United Nations to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Non-aligned Movement in pursuance of the resolution adopted at the last Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference in New Delhi.

The message said, "on this very day 20 years ago the founding members inspired by a common determination and vision launched this movement at the historic Belgrade conference to chart out a new path of peace freedom and neutrality steering clear of the power blocs and to promote peaceful and equitable relations among all nations."

He said, "the significant contribution of the Non-aligned Movement during the last two decades to international peace and security through peaceful coexistence and relaxation of tension has been widely recognised. The Movement also played an equally important roll in the process of decolonisation and promotion of social and economic development on the basis of sovereign equality. On this historic occasion we pay our special tributes to the founding members for their

far-sighted vision and untiring service to the cause of our movement. Bangladesh's adherence to the principles of Non-alignment was categorically affirmed by our late President Ziaur Rahman at the sixth Non-aligned Summit Conference in Havana. We are firmly committed to uphold the principles of the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all states non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states non-use of force and peaceful settlement of all disputes. This commitment has been consistently reflected in the position taken by Bangladesh on various international issues.

The message added "on this auspicious day we hope that all the members of the Non-aligned Movement will take a solemn vow further to consolidate and strengthen unity and solidarity among the Non-aligned countries so as to make this movement a still stronger force for world peace and progress."

CSO: 4220/7018



MUKTIJODDAH SANGSAD WARNS AGAINST INTERNAL FOES

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 29 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Text] Messrs Mahfuzur Rahman and Sadek Hossain Khoka, convener and [word indistinct]-convener of the Central Convening Committee of the Bangladesh Muktiyoddah Sangsad in a statement on Friday urged the people to unitedly foil the conspiracies hatched against our national existence.

They said that the independent and sovereign existence of Bangladesh and democratic process in it had been threatened by a deep-rooted conspiracy. Since February the internal enemies have been trying in a systematic way at the instigation of their foreign master to split the nation and create political turmoil raising a motivated debate on "freedom fighter-non-freedom fighter issues."

"The landing of Indian troops at South Talpatty which is an integral part of Bangladesh and deployment of Indian warships at Bangladesh territorial waters, return of Awami League (Hasina) President Sheikh Hasina Wazed in Dacca, threat to stage Afghan style revolution in the country Farakka, rebellion by a small section of army at Chittagong and above all the killing of President Ziaur Rahman all these were not isolated events from the conspiracy."

Any pointed out that the Chittagong rebellion and President Zia's assassination were carried out aiming at creation of political confusion and foil democratic process in the country. But the conspiracy took a newer turn after the people and patriotic Armed Forces undid the aims of the conspiracy. The new target of the conspiracy is to foil the forthcoming presidential election. Another target of this conspiracy is to involve the freedom fighters and downgrade their image.

They appealed to the patriotic political parties to grasp the reality of the moment as any failure to face the evildoers who depend the interest of foreign powers will impair the democratic process in the country.

The leaders of the freedom fighters urged the "patriotic political parties to consider the participation in the presidential polls keeping in mind these aspects of their national duty."

They further said that it should be remembered that forthcoming presidential election was not an outcome of normal situation. The need for it arose following the assassination of the President.

If the elections were disrupted our national existence would be at stake, they observed.

They said that certain persons were trying not only to involve the freedom fighters into the mesh of political controversy but also conspiring to drag them into its tantaotes(?).

They further observed that individually the freedom fighters might have different political affiliations but the Muktiyoddah Sangsad was an organisation independent of any political belief.

They also sounded that the freedom fighters of the Sangsad would never brook such conspiracy.

They further said that a rally of the freedom fighters would be held in Dacca on September 2 to decide about the tasks of the FFs to resist all conspiracies against national existence and [word indistinct] the present situation.

CSO: 4220/7010

TEXT OF SATTAR'S MESSAGE TO NONALIGNED MEETING

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Sep 81 pp 1, 12

[Text] Acting President Mr Justice Abdus Sattar has reaffirmed Bangladesh's firm commitment to the principles of non-alignment and hoped that the non-aligned countries would take a renewed pledge "to meet the challenges of our time" reports BSS.

In a message on the eve of observance of the day of non-alignment on September 1, the Acting President called for intensifying the efforts aimed at further strengthening the unity and solidarity and mutual cooperation among non-aligned countries and to endow their movement with new vigour and strength in serving the cause of peace, progress and justice all over the world.

Justice Sattar said, Bangladesh is irrevocably committed by the terms of her Constitution to the principles of non-aligned movement, as stated by our late President Ziaur Rahman at the sixth Non-aligned Summit Conference in Havana "the policy of non-alignment is a cornerstone of our foreign policy."

Following is the text of the message: I am very happy to know that 1st September this year is being observed as the day of non-alignment in all member countries of the non-aligned movement to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 1st conference of heads of state or government of nonaligned countries held in Belgrade in 1961.

On this very day, 20 years ago, inspired by a common determination and vision the non-aligned movement was launched. Today we recall with great pride, the historic contribution which the founding members of the movement have made to serve the cause of humanity by seeking an independent path, free from bloc rivalry and ideological polarisation and to promote peaceful and equitable relations among all nations irrespective of size power and ideology. In the last two decades the movement has grown to embrace 95 countries from all continents representing more than half the world's population, all the religions and virtually all political, ideological, economic and social systems.

Since its inception the record of the non-aligned movement in pursuit of that determination and vision, is one of remarkable accomplishment. The movement has not only made significant contribution to the process of detente and relaxation of global tension but also played an important role in the process of decolonisation and helped in the promotion of social and economic development.

The historic 20th anniversary of the movement is a fitting occasion to pay our special tribute to the founding members for their wisdom and farsightedness and to reaffirm our determination to strictly adhere to the principles of non-alignment. Bangladesh is irrevocably committed by the terms of her constitution to the principles of non-aligned movement as stated in non-aligned summit conference in Havana "the policy of non-alignment is a cornerstone of our foreign policy."

On this historic day we reaffirm our firm commitment to the principles of non-alignment upholding the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all states, non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states non-use of force and peaceful settlement of all disputes.

We also hope and pray that in order to meet the challenges of our time, the non-aligned countries would take a renewed pledge on this day to intensify the efforts aimed at further strengthening the unity and solidarity and mutual co-operation amongst ourselves and to endow our movement with new vigour and strength in serving the cause of peace progress and justice all over the world.

CSO: 4220/7018

SPEECH BY BANGLADESH DELEGATE TO PYONGYANG MEET

Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29, 30 Aug 81

[Text] [29 Aug 81, pp 5, 6] A Symposium of Nonaligned Group on 'Increased Food and Agricultural Production for Self-sufficiency in Food' began in Pyongyang on August 26, 1981 with the observance of one minute's silence in honour of the late President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh. The symposium was inaugurated by Prime Minister Mr Li Jong Ok. Seventy-nine countries and 12 international organisations are participating in the symposium. A banquet was given by President Kim Il Sung in honour of the participants the same night.

Leader of Bangladesh delegation, Mr Amiru Islam Kalam, State Minister in charge of Agriculture and Forest, delivered the following speech:

**T**HANK you, Mr. Chairman for giving me this opportunity to address this conference. I deem it an honour and privilege to be here with you and address this wise audience. The issue before the conference is quite clear. A majority of the world today, particularly in rural Asia Africa and Latin America is living in unbelievable misery and unnecessary squalor. Development has passed them by. Yet, should this be so?

I must begin, Excellencies, with thanks to the Preparatory Committee for having framed the parameters of our discussions in concrete terms. They have done it not only by choosing and ordering the main topics judiciously but also by underlining certain thoughts and actions which are often deliberately swept under the rug. These are issues of direct relevance to the non aligned and other developing countries vis-a-vis their food and agricultural situation and the total rural development milieu.

Excellencies, it is reassuring to note that this Pyongyang meet would discuss with due priority the value-premise, like collective self-reliance for self-sufficiency, mass-mobilisation for real accumulation, popular participation for unleashing the potential mass-creativity, group

dynamics for maximising benefits to the many, countervailing power for a fairer International Food and Economic Order, and the myriad facets that influence the life of the rural majority. The rural majority are a powerful and creative force with a muted voice. The political leadership in the countries and globally must respect their quiet force and not be misguided by loud whispers in the corridors of power.

Mr. Chairman I shall start with the international scene, although I accept the national responsibility for accelerating agricultural development and food production. It is easy to pontificate upon poverty of a nation being its internal political and economic problem. But as the country-side interferes the national metropolis, the nation is bound up in the international metropolis and its politics. The importance of world food security and its dispersion as key components in the New International Economic Order is now a matter of common knowledge. Yet, the global food outlook for the 1980's looks rather grim since the early seventies. It was viewed with deep concern by the last Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers' Conference in New Delhi that the developing coun-

tries, with more than two-thirds of the world population and 91 per cent of agricultural employment, are responsible for only 44 per cent of the world food production. Standing on the threshold of the New Decade, the Ministers therefore had sent out a fervent appeal to the advantaged world to invite its countries to change heart and come up with new initiatives for a more equitable development process.

Time and again the developed countries have been urged to adopt a time-bound programme for implementation of various measures, including enhanced resource-flow and technology transfer envisaged in the recommendations of international bodies and conferences on world food policy so that the efforts in increasing food production by the developing countries may be supported with adequate infrastructural investment and necessary inputs. But what has been the outcome so far?

As you are aware, Excellencies, in spite of some recent improvement in certain countries, the overall agricultural situation faced by the food unfortunate developing countries, particularly by the least developed among them, continues to be critical and threatens to deteriorate further. Therefore, in



their efforts to be able to achieve about 4 per cent average annual growth in agricultural production as considered necessary to stem the recession and urgent attention should be paid to low-income and food-deficit countries. Here I would like to emphasise: Excellencies, that the central issue of the much talked about Food Security is the transfer of additional resources of right quantity and quality to the developing countries for investment in food production and agricultural development to reach and sustain desired production targets. As such, these countries are to be provided on an emergency basis with what may be called working capital in terms of very special assistance.

But this is an old story by now and perhaps will remain as such. Because when we ask

for it they say they have their set of questions to be answered first. Do we have adequate institutions to utilise additional resources? Are we really mobilising our internal resources, or simply looking for soft options? In this series, Excellencies, there are even amusing questions like—How can we go for more production before having more storage facilities? As if the storage problem is not redeemable through appropriate assistance. And so on and so forth. I shall come back to some of these issues later. Let me first tell you about what we are actually doing at home.

Most of you are perhaps acquainted with the Bangladesh setting. Nevertheless, allow me, Excellencies, to delineate some salient features in broad strokes. It is a small deltaic plain of about 5800 square miles and yet the eighth most populous state in the world with about 90 million people. Bangladesh lives in about 70 thousand villages. 90 per cent of the population is rural and of them over 80 per cent work on land. The man-land ratio is among the worst in the world, being below half a hectare per capita which is again scattered in very small plots. Fifty per cent of the rural population are functionally landless. The vast majority are below poverty-line. Rural unemployment and underemployment together with malnutrition are endemic. To aggravate the situation the physical factors that obtain as agricultural production stagnates—recurring flood and drought combined with periodic cyclones—

and tidal bore. Half the land remains under water for more than six months, and there is too little water in the water. Only a little over ten per cent of the land is under controlled irrigation. There are no landlords or rich farmers in Bangladesh and yet ninety per cent of the farm-families operate only fifty

per cent of the cultivable area.

Yet Bangladesh is endowed with highly fertile land, abundant water, natural gas and most important of all—a resilient people. Technically, it should be possible for us to double or even treble the food production, but Bangladesh continues to be a net importer of food. Why is this food gap, poverty and hunger? Today it may very much look like an internal economic and political malaise. But it would be naive if one does not view the existence and cause of this poverty and hunger in their historical context.

Land used to belong to the crown throughout the history of Bangladesh. But its colonial rulers wanted to make everything English in a land where everything was un-English and to begin with privatised the ownership of land with mescheons of rent receiving interests upto the crown and an oppressive revenue-collecting machinery in operation, in their bid to annex the peasant economy to the metropolis. Thus the traditional agrarian society came apart and an outlandish set of production relationships came about. The characteristics of new social dynamics of asymmetrical dependency relationships may be identified as (i) sub-infeudation, (ii) sharecropping, (iii) perpetual indebtedness (iv) distress sale of produce and assets by the tenants and (v) multiple social roles of the dominant group, the landlords moneylenders, mercenary capitalists, and village-brokers vis-à-vis the dominated group, the primary producers, the landless, the landless, the agricultural labourers and the odd-job destitute. The whole move was to change drastically the social fabric of peasant-society, but at the same time, to leave virtually unaffected the basic mode of production at the traditional level, deriving it the technology. Thus agriculture was simply squeezed for industries at the colonial and royal capitals. As a result the upper strata benefited handsomely, agricultural production stagnated and the cultivators suffer.

For Bangladesh, the partition of India only meant replacement

ment of the continental colonialists by the subcontinental colonialists. And therefore structural changes in the agrarian economy was not even expected. Bangladesh agriculture was colonised for turning foreign exchange earnings of agricultural produce into import-substituting industries in the new capital. The Legislative Land Reform of 1950 was marginal as far as redistribution of land to occupancy tenants and tenants at will were concerned.

It is against this background of a basically subsistence agriculture systematically denied of investible fund that the war

[30 Aug 81, pp 5, 6]

A major improvement in the agricultural productivity can be achieved only through the provision of a modern technological package well adapted to particular soil and water resources and applied by skilled farmers, given adequate institutional and marketing support. The core of this technology is high yielding variety of seed and nutrients. The security needed by farmers for this investment in technology will be primarily provided through expansion of irrigated acreage and through drainage and flood control. Development, control and efficient utilization of water resources do constitute the most important element of the food production strategy. Almost two-thirds of the projected incremental production is directly attributable to water development programmes. The irrigated area is proposed to be doubled (from the current 3 million acres to 7-8 million acres in 1984-85). In addition, about 2-4 million acres are to be provided with drainage and flood control facilities.

Water control, being the spearhead of improved crop production technology, it will have to be backed by improved arrangements for input supply, training and organisation of farmers, adaptive research, marketing and price support.

While the main emphasis in the Food Plan is on water resource development, rainfed agriculture will still have to play an important role. The current momentum for expansion of rainfed wheat acreage and production will be supported and maintained. Accelerated adoption of HYVs for summer and autumn rice will also be emphasised as well as of improved cultural practices for producing higher yields.

Agricultural credit requirements from institutional sources are expected to rise sharply

for purchase of inputs and equipments. Steps have been taken to increase the availability of credit to cooperative farmers increasing the total stock of credit, opening up more credit channels and liberalising credit procedures. Scheduling of credit to cover farmers' annual multicrop production programme is also being initiated.

Further, to ensure the growers a fair price government have undertaken to construct feeder and access roads to markets and procurement centres as well as to increase the government grain procurement and storage capacity including improvement in storage management. Besides, the private grain-traders are being encouraged through access to credit for trading and construction of private storages.

To support the food production drive during the Plan and for sustained growth, particular emphasis will be given to situation specific adaptive research based on feedback from the extension service. Research programmes will also emphasise cost-effective farming techniques. To support longer range nutritional objectives vigorous research programmes on non-cereal food crops (particularly pulses, oilseeds, vegetables and fruits) will be pursued so that suitable technical packages will be available for a big push with these crops once cereal self-sufficiency is achieved.

Farmers' training is being organised on a regular basis through the training and visit system and short institutional training of progressive farmers at Agricultural Extension Training Institutes. Training programmes will be constantly under review and existing facilities for both technical and sub-technical personnel of the extension department will be expanded.

The bureaucratic set-up of the agriculture sector has been reorganised so that the available management and technical cadres could be deployed more effectively. On the job and in-service training including management training is being institutionalised for all kinds and levels of personnel. Agricultural research and extension efforts are being intensified and their linkage established through emphasis on adaptive research, on field demonstration and extension of the training and visit system throughout the country.

For better co-ordination among the agencies at the field and implementation level Government have appointed Ministers as Chairmen of District Agricultural Development committees created the post of District Development Co-ordinator occupied by a Member of the Parliament and revived the local level planning system for the identification and execution of schemes under the Rural Works Irrigation and Land Use Development Programmes.

The ultimate success or failure of the plan will, however, be determined by the extent to which the 7 million farm families respond to the incentive provided in the Plan. Their participation in the plan will be encouraged by reinvigorating the co-operative movement, involving the village governments and vigorous motivation efforts by political leaders. The late President himself had launched the movement for production and the people have been mobilised.

Excellencies: We are sure that our food grain based growth strategy would generate marketable surplus in the present subsistence farm-holding. Besides, high yield technologies for foodgrains production in two-thirds of the land are likely to generate half a billion additional man-days of employment. As a consequence, demand for non-cereal food crops rich in protein would expand considerably by 1985. Foodgrain us to an opportunity to narrow down the protein gap provide a more balanced nutrition to the entire population by maximising the production of pulses, oil-seeds, vegetables and fruits.

The acceleration of growth rate in agriculture and the consequent linkage are technically possible provided there is adequate investible fund which is yet to be forthcoming. We are aware of our resources constraint. That is why we have already identified the major resource to be mobilized for immediate assault on hunger and poverty. They are our people the rural majority—the small farmers, the tenants, the share-croppers, the artisans, the landless agricultural labourers, the doubly exploited women and the volatile youth.

These hitherto untapped and virtually inexhaustible human resources of the country of 90 million souls are now being mobilised and organised throughout the 70 thousand villages to harness all their initiative and latent creativity for building up the self-reliant and mass-participatory economy of Bangladesh. We are determined to convert our land into a

bread basket. Mr. Chairman, we have a dream, a dream that Bangladesh will again become the provider of food not only for our people but also others a dream that every human being should be able to fulfil his minimum needs. In Bangladesh we are striving with diligence to create these conditions so that the broad masses are in a position to satisfy their inherent rights to food, health care, education and employment opportunity. But our task is at least for our children goes far beyond these minimum necessities or should I say, rights. I want to underscore the point that the satisfaction of basic needs should not and could not become the ultimate goal of development effort. It could only be a take off point.

Mr. Chairman, our people in the villages have withstood flood and drought, the scouring

of hunger and deprivation. They are the people who will make development take place, development which is for the many and by the many. The people have been mobilised. Their creativity has been unleashed. What gives us the strength? The people. The political mandate that the people have given to our government is that agriculture is the foundation of the economy. To achieve this objective industry must be retooled to support agriculture and to provide value-added to primary produce. What we need today is the critical mass of investment necessary for all these. But will our partners in development come forward?

The official development assistance has reduced in real terms. The group of eighteen priority food deficit countries containing over 40% of the developing world's population received less than quarter of the capital commitments to agriculture in the first half of the decade of the seventies. And, what about the quality of assistance? By quality, as you are aware, I mean more grant elements, more untying of aid, more commodity aid, more programme aid, as opposed to project aid less divergence between pledge and commitment, less gap between commitment and disbursement and above everything else, decentralisation is a sine qua non of development at the national level. Is it not true of the official development assistance at the international level? How much of international assistance has been provided for eradicating hunger, and how much as socio-political investment? Improvement in any of these, will surely mean much more than the ever dwindling quantum increase in

real terms. Secondly equally important as aid for us is trade liberalisation. Many of us are still suffering from colonial hang-over of having to depend on one single agricultural crop of exchange value, like jute in our case. Why don't the rich who are allegedly sympathetic to the poor talk about price-stabilisation for jute, our major export commodity? Unequal international trade imposes tariff and non-tariff barriers against our exports both primary and value-added. Therefore I would again say, if we can force some countervailing power, let us use that first for favourable trade, and then for the quality of aid.

Excellencies: I know it is time for me to conclude. And I should conclude reiterating my confidence in the central theme of this symposium: collective self-reliance for self-sufficiency. In other words, let us not wait for anybody and let us go for the hard option of relying on our own resources. We are also an international communion of nations, with all the potentials one needs to draw on for a breakthrough. All that we have to do is to put our available resources together as the group of the Non-Aligned in the developing world or regions. Even pooling of mere regional wealth can take us a long way ahead. Precisely on this concept Bangladesh has been able to make fruitful dialogues going on among seven nations of the south Asian region with intent to exploring the possibilities of resources in men, material and information. We have already jointly identified certain fields of cooperation in agriculture among the South Asian countries. The areas are also relevant to the community of the Non-Aligned countries. I would therefore like to mention some of them as they might be of interest to the participants in this forum.

With the deteriorating fossil fuel situation, the cost of energy has become prohibitive for most of the member countries which have been trying to go in for increased use of synthetic fertilizers and mechanisation. One has to fall back on the conventional sources of energy & look for innovations in the form of recycling and rationalisation of output, from non-renewable resources. Therefore, specific research and development for multilateral action may be very fruitful in the improvement of draft breeds of cattle, and their better

management through improved nutrition and health care; improved designs of farm equipment and tools to reduce the wastage of energy and improve their efficiency. Research and development will be extremely useful also in the field of solar energy for rural areas and appropriate technology to devise newer and better machines, based on local source of fuel such as bio-mass alcohol and cellulose.

Fertilizers come next only to water as a pre-requisite for modern agriculture. In this area cooperative actions may be initiated in the exploration of the possibilities of joint ventures in fertilizer production: research in the optimum and efficient use of fertilizers; establishment of a 'fertilizer bank' by the member countries for various types of chemical fertilizers in order to overcome acute shortages at times of need, and, exploring alternatives to chemical fertilizers.

A significant proportion of food produced in the community is unfortunately lost at the post-harvest stage. Presently, considerable research effort is being made everywhere to improve the situation and devise storage and post-harvest techniques suitable for local conditions that are based on local materials. Sharing of this knowledge and joint research on post-harvest technology would certainly accelerate the rate of progress of the countries concerned in this direction.

An inventory of all the institutions responsible for agricultural research, extension, education and management in the non-aligned community may be prepared as a ready reference for use of the member countries. Similarly a mechanism may have to be developed to catalogue various varieties of crops, breeds, machines, techniques and patents so that interested parties in the whole group may have ready access to the same.

Excellencies, I am sure, I will return from this symposium far richer in experience, but even more important, with the ever-abiding hope of collective self-reliance. Let us continue our battle against poverty and with our collective strength I am sure we shall overcome.

(Concluded)



#### SATTAR OPENS NATIONAL ABORIGINAL-TRIBAL PARLEY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Text] Acting President Mr Justice Abdus Sattar has called upon the aboriginal and tribal people to make their individual contributions to the mainstream of country's development in expression of their solidarity with national hopes and aspirations.

Inaugurating the first National Convention of Bangladeshi Aboriginal-Tribal people at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on Sunday the Acting President reiterated the declaration of late President Ziaur Rahman and said, "like him, I also want to emphatically announce that there is no existence of any majority or minority in Bangladesh. Here all of us are Bangladeshis."

Continuing, the Acting President said, "I think that only through this that your rights will be established in the society. Nobody will be able to keep you behind if you become the followers of nationalism and democratic principles."

Organised by the Bangladesh Aboriginal-Tribal Welfare Federation and presided over by its convener Prof Michael B. Malo, the function was also addressed by the State Minister for Food Aung Showe Prue Chowdhury, special assistant to the President Subimal Dewan, Mr Promode Mankin, Mr K. S. Prue from Chittagong Hill Tracts, Mr Joachim Asakra from Mymensingh, Mr Paresh Chandra Mri from Tangail, Mr Suja Hemrom from North Bengal and Mr Joymun Singh from Sylhet.

The function was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister S. A. Bari, AT, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, State Minister for Sports and Culture Dr Fazlul Karim, and State Minister for Science and Technology Dr R. A. Ghani.

#### Cultural Life

The Acting President said that the people of the country would undoubtedly be benefited by the valuable information about socio-economic and cultural life of our aboriginal-tribals to be reflected during the national convention.

Describing the first ever national convention by the aboriginal-tribal people as a new chapter in the history of our socio-cultural advancement, he said that the unique living and tradition of the aborigines were not separated from the soil and people of Bangladesh. Rather, their addition had made the country's own culture varying in character and lively.

Recalling the memory of President Ziaur Rahman, the acting President said that the late President was a real friend and servant of the people irrespective of caste and creed, high or low. He had found that most of the areas of the country remained undeveloped due to hundreds of years of colonial rule and exploitation. The impregnable areas inhabited by the aborigines and tribes with no exception.

#### Happy Society

Mr Justice said that the late President worked hard for this reason to establish an exploitation free happy society through a peaceful revolution by organising and uniting the people on the basis of Bangladeshi nationalism. It is our misfortune that he could not see the successful end of the revolution launched by him.

The Acting President said that the dream of President Zia could be realised if we all of us adhere to his ideals and principles and work together to keep continue the revolution launched by him "and we shall have to do it for our economic emancipation," he said.

Mr Justice Abdus Sattar assured that the Government would continue its efforts for early implementation of all development projects announced by the late President for the entire country including the tribal areas.

Mr Aung Showe Prue Chowdhury said that it was President Zia who took the first ever initiative for the overall development of the aborigines and tribal people, of this country.

He assured total support to the present government on behalf of the aborigines and tribal people. He also called upon the people to vote for Mr Justice Abdus Sattar in the forthcoming presidential election in order to ensure political stability.

#### Economic Uplift

Mr Subimal Dewan said that it was necessary for the people to keep the present government in power to ensure uninterrupted economic development of the country.

The representatives of the federation, in their speeches, highlighted the problems of the aborigines and tribal people at different areas.

They pleaded for formation of a development board at national level, and restoration of rights of land illegally occupied by others.

At the beginning of the meeting, one minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect for the departed soul of President Ziaur Rahman.

Tribal and aboriginal artistes presented a lively cultural show on the occasion.



DELEGATE TO PYONGYANG MEET RECEIVED BY KIM

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 30 Aug 81 p 8

[Text] Pyongyang, Aug 29:

Mr Amirul Islam Kalam, State Minister in charge of Agriculture and Forests and leader of Bangladesh delegation to the Non-Aligned Symposium on "Increasing Food and Agricultural Production for self-sufficiency in Food" called on the DPRK President Mr Kim Il Sung here yesterday. President Kim received the delegation most cordially, says an official announcement.

Matters of mutual interests and greater cooperation between the two countries were discussed.

President Kim condoled the demise of late President Ziaur Rahman and described him as his brother. He recalled the untiring efforts of late President towards the cause of Non-Aligned movement and increasing food and agricultural production in his country. Paying rich tributes to the late President, he expressed his confidence that under the inspiring leadership of Acting President Justice Abdus Sattar Bangladesh would achieve great success in realising her cherished national goals. President Kim also assured all help and cooperation to Bangladesh in her efforts to attain self-sufficiency in food.

The meeting held in most friendly and cordial atmosphere lasted for about 40 minutes.

CSO: 4220/7014

CANDIDATE OSMANY PLEDGES NATIONAL DEFENSE SYSTEM

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 29 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Article by Shamsul Huq Zahid]

[Text] Bogra, Aug 28: Gen (Retd) M.A.C. Osmany on Friday said that he would develop a defence system on national basis with a strong well-equipped regular army backed by a people's militia if he went to power.

Addressing a public meeting at local Altafunnessa Ground Gen Osmany explained that the people's militia would be in line with those available in Israel and Yugoslavia. This force made those countries invincible against any external attacks.

He also said that he would also strengthen Bangladesh Rifles to stop smuggling and other activities along the border.

The meeting was presided over by Abdul Khaleque and addressed among others by Dr M. R. Khan a former Presidential Adviser, Dr Mofiz Chowdhury former Minister in Awami League Government, Mr Khalequzzaman, Convener of BSD, Mr Mahmudur Rahman Manna, Vice President of DUCSU.

Gen Osmany also assured that he would strengthen various organisations relating to freedom fighters like Sena Kalyan Sangatha and Muktijodha Sangsad. He also said that if elected, he would withdraw all warrants of arrests against 1,200 freedom fighters on condition that they would live an honest life.

He also proposed for revolutionising cooperatives which would aim at improving the lot of the landless and help develop agriculture. The national policy for agriculture will also have a rural bias underlining greater participation of the farmers and workers.

Speaking on the political scene, Gen Osmany said that the country was beset with the politics of conspiracy and falsehood. Economy has been crippled and the foreign aid had been put to unproductive use. Agriculture was not getting due attention.

The Taka had been devalued three times in recent past causing high inflation which badly hit the fixed and low income group people.

Gen Osmany reiterated his four objectives which included restoration of 1972 Constitution through constitutional means. He said that people wanted and called for constitutional movement.

He also criticised establishment of export processing zone, which he said would only help some people while the vast multitude would have derived no benefit. Disparity between man and man region and region would only increase.

Gen. Osmany said that the BNP was bluffing the people and criticised the party for showing that he called disrespect to their leader by passing the Sixth Amendment. They did not give the due honour which the late President deserved by preserving the Constitution, he said.

Defending his call for return to parliamentary democracy he said the killing of two Presidents had proved that other forms of government were not suitable for the country.

He also called for strong nonaligned policy and said his Government would frame its policy after due evaluation of every issue.

CSO: 4220/7010

CANDIDATE OSMANY PROMISES ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Text] Khulna, Aug 30: Presidential candidate Gen (Retd) M.A.G. Osmany said here today that if elected he would establish rule of law in the country and would take concrete step to separate the judiciary from the executive for the purpose.

Addressing a public meeting at Shahid Hadis Park, Gen Osmany said that as a first step towards the end, the Ministry of Establishment would not be allowed to deal with appointment, transfer, promotion and other related matters of the judicial officers and such matters would be dealt with by a separate body.

Presided over by Advocate Abdul Wahed, a local Jatiya Janata Party leader, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Dr Zafarullah Choudhury, convener of Jatiya Nagarik Committee, Dr M. R. Khan a former presidential adviser, Mr Khalequzzaman Bhuiya, convener of Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal and Mr Mahmudur Rahman Manna, vice-President of DUCSU.

The nominee of the Nagarik Committee for the presidential election reiterated his demand for shifting the date of presidential polls to November. He warned the ruling party not to make a mistake by not shifting the polls date "If you make the mistake you will be ruined," he cautioned.

Gen (Retd) Osmany said that he would modernise the police force so that it could become popular and could be termed as the protector of the interest of the people. He said that he would strengthen the Bangladesh Rifles, make the Armed Forces stronger and well-equipped and introduce an effective peoples' militia as done in countries like Israel and Yugoslavia.

The retired General said that he would go in for step-by-step decentralisation of administration. He said that he would also abolish all laws repugnant to the freedom of press, fundamental rights of the people and provisions of ILO.

The presidential candidate called for balanced dispersal of industries all over the country and criticised the establishment of export processing zones, which he said would lead to the concentration of industries in particular areas.

Gen Osmany said that he would give guarantee of full freedom to all religion and strengthen the religious education.

Reiterating his commitment to change the presidential form of government to parliamentary form, Gen Osmany said that the presidential form led to autocratic rule.

Our Jessore correspondent reports: Gen Osmany said here today that the people fought for independence in 1971 for not establishing one-party government. Its principal aim was the establishment of parliamentary democracy in the country, he said.

Addressing a way-side meeting at Daratana Square in Jessore town this morning the presidential candidate said that parliamentary form of government was a prerequisite for economic emancipation and restoration of democratic rights of the people. He said that the elected presidents of the country had to die because parliamentary democracy was not established even after 10 years of independence.

The retired General called upon the patriotic people to participate in the movement through constitutional process so that the constitution of 1972 could be revived.

CSO: 4220/7016



COMMERCE MINISTER ASKS FOR NEW EXPORT STRATEGY

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 1 Sep 81 pp 1, 3

[Text] State Minister for Commerce Choudhury Tanbir Ahmed Siddiky on Monday asked the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) officials to develop new strategies taking in view of the international recession to achieve the export target of the country for the current year.

Addressing the officials of the EPB at its office, Mr Siddiky said that in spite of the international recession it was possible to reach the target. He advised them to use their expertise and work relentlessly to find new markets for Bangladesh products and strengthen the existing ones.

The State Minister for Commerce said that the motto of this year's export policy was not to give emphasis on volume but on value.

Mr Siddiky underlined the need to constantly monitor the changes in international market such as in Middle-Eastern countries which imported food items worth 19 billion dollar annually. Since Bangladesh had very good relations with these countries, he hoped a share of this huge market could be easily obtained.

Indonesia and Australia could be other good markets. Referring to allegations about poor quality control of export items, he said that some exporters were adopting what he described as "hit and run policy" in their business which was earning for the country bad name. He told the EPB officials to ensure that exporters understood that such policy was unacceptable and harmful to the country.

Referring to allegations against some exporters who failed to supply products as per specifications, he said that this should be dealt with strong hand.

Listing proposed measures to increase country's exports, he said these including holding of seminars and workshops all over the country to motivate prospective exporters about export business. He said that the first seminar would be held at Bogra in September.

Mr Siddiky directed the EPB to complete the first phase of work of the proposed world trade centre within next two years. He said that an all out effort should also be made to complete the centre within Second Five-Year Plan period.

Earlier, the Vice-Chairman of EPB Mr Ruhul Amin Majumdar said that there was shortfall in country's export trade in 1980-81 because of fall of prices of certain items in the international markets. He said "we could earn Tk 210 crore more last year even the prices remained at par with that of 1979-80."

Mr Majumdar said that there were enough scope to further increase export of Bangladesh products including frozen food, readymade garments and jute and jute goods to the United States, principal importer of Bangladesh products.

CSO: 4220/7020

EDITORIAL NOTES DOUBTS OVER CREDIT CURBS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Aug 81 p 5

[Editorial: "New Credit Measures"]

[Text] Business circles and some experts are having doubts whether recent curbs on credits by the banks will really check inflation. On the contrary, they believe, the recent attempts at credit controls might depress economic activities while inflation abates not at all. They advance the following reasons for fearing exactly such an outcome. First, they point to what probable effects the new fiscal measures may have on the import trade. According to Bangladesh Bank regulation, the LC margin to be borne by the private importer ought not to be less than 25 per cent in any case. In other cases, the margins would be as high as 50 per cent. Almost 75 per cent of the finances for imports under the WES used to be supplied by the banks. The new rule reverses this policy and requires now that the importers himself should bear the LC margin to the extent of 75 per cent while importing consumer items.

The raising of LC margin will impose money constraints on many importers. In a way, this might mean lesser imports and diminishing supplies of commodities in the markets, as they say, and hence scarcities and a fresh spate of price rises on the ground of shortages. The reduced role of genuine importers will encourage black money wielders and a few influential ones with special connections with the banks to engage in monopoly business activities. Such a development would hardly safeguard the consumers' interest or put a brake on inflationary spirals.

The banks have been ordered to decrease their overall credit ceiling by 10 per cent on average. The private trading in jute already remains dull due to unmitigated liabilities carried over from the previous seasons. Shrinking credit availabilities in this season may add cause to depress further the private sector buying and selling of jute. Credit insufficiency might also afflict tea exporters and foreign buyers mopping up the produce cheap in auctions because of lagging competition. The new bank policies, it is also being said, may deter private investments in industries and trade leading to lesser trading, manufacturing and services and thus overall decline in economic activities in the country creating thus a situation of fewer economic opportunities. In short, it could restrict economic growth with negative impact on employment and income generation.

We do not suggest that the present credit controls be lifted. We simply draw attention to possible undesirable implications of credit controls so that the present rules can be restructured somewhat as would serve the dual purpose of well regulated monetary expansion while not bringing about a 'depression' that nobody wants.

CSO: 4220/7016

# POOR SITUATION IN JUTE MARKET REPORTED

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Text] Actual exports of raw jute for the period June-July 1981 was lower than those of the corresponding period of the previous season (June-July, 1979-80).

During June-July, 1979-80 a total of 19,68,006 bales of raw jute had been exported while in June-July 1980-81 a total of 19,43,946 bales of raw jute was actually exported, according to official estimates.

Actual export of jute goods during June-July 1981, however, was higher than that during June-July 1980. Jute goods (hessian, sacking, C.B.C. and others) exported during June-July, 1980 was 4,40,233 tons, while during June-July, 1981, total export of jute goods stood at 4,86,708 tons.

The cumulative production of jute goods in the different mills of the country during June-July, 1981, was higher compared to the production during June-July, 1980. During June-July, 1980 a total of 5,23,006 tons of jute goods had been produced while during the corresponding period of 1981 a total of 5,80,853 tons of jute goods had been produced in the various jute mills in the country.

Our Narayanganj Correspondent adds that although the jute season has got underway since mid-July, the buying and selling of jute in the internal markets had been extremely low-keyed during the past weeks.

## Exporters Demand

The situation arose because the private jute traders, who virtually control nearly 60 per cent of the country's jute trade have deliberately stayed aloof from the market. The jute traders had deposited their licences to the Bangladesh Jute Association (BJA) with a view to pressing their 10-point demands in May, 1981. The BJA had decided not to submit any of the licences for renewal until their demands were met.

## Renewal Delayed

In a delayed decision, the BJA called upon its members to submit their licences to the Government for renewal. But it was after July 25, which was the last extended date for submission of licences for renewal. Now all the licences of the private traders are lying with the Jute Ministry for renewal.



BJA sources learnt that out of 250 jute traders, 17 have not applied to get their trading licences renewed for the year 1981-82. A member of the Executive Committee of the BJA told that most of the traders out of these seventeen, have expressed their inability to carry out their export business in the current fiscal year, as they do not have sufficient funds. Moreover, most of these exporters have incurred a huge loss due to the slump in the international jute market over the past few years. But an official of the Directorate of Jute told this correspondent that many shippers after taking bank loans in the name of jute trade, have switched over to other lucrative business.

According to an estimate a sum of Taka 181 crore has remained outstanding to different jute exporters in the country for the last five years.

It was also learnt that the Bangladesh Bank has not yet sanctioned fresh loans to the private traders in view of its huge amount of arrears--and as such the private traders have remained off the market.

It is gathered that Bangladesh Jute Association and Bangladesh Jute Export Corporation will jointly form an inspection team to go through the problems of the jute exporters and find out its solution shortly.

It is officially learnt that 19 lakh bales of jute was exported during the last fiscal year. The private traders shared 16.5 lakh bales and the rest 2.5 lakh bales were exported by Government Jute Corporations. The bulk of the jute export is being handled by the private traders.

The daily average arrival of raw jute in Narayanganj is eight thousand maunds while in Daulatpur is around three thousand maunds.

The quantity of jute supplied in Narayanganj was 20 thousand while Daulatpur was 10 thousand maunds to the corresponding period of last year. The lack of sufficient financial arrangement and delay in the renewal of licences are the main reasons for the poor supply of jute this year.

Only a few private jute traders, namely Kumudini Welfare Trust of Bengal, A.R. Jute trading and several other firms have opened their lucky jute purchase at their own initiative.

Meanwhile, the Government Corporations namely Bangladesh Jute Trading Corporation, Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation have started the purchase of new jute through their agencies. At present the jute corporation are apparently the lone purchaser of raw jute in the terminal market of Narayanganj.

CSO: 4220/7016

BRIEFS

**UNPRECEDENTED FOOD STOCK**--Narsingdi, Aug 28--Food Minister Mr Abdul Momen Khan said that the stock of foodgrains had reached 13 lakh tons till now since last year, a level unprecedented in the country's history reports BSS. He expressed his optimism that the food supply situation of the country would remain favourable to face any situation. He was addressing a women conference of BNP at the Municipal Hall here this morning. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Aug 81 p 12]

**ENVOY TO EGYPT**--Lt Gen (Retd) Meer Shawkat Ali, Ambassador designate to Egypt left Dacca on Thursday night for Cairo to take up his new assignment, reports BSS. Talking to newsmen, he said at the Zia International Airport that his mission in Egypt would be to further strengthen the existing 'very good and brotherly' relations between the two countries. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 29 Aug 81 p 8]

**ENVOY TO SINGAPORE**--Singapore, Aug 29--the new Bangladesh High Commissioner to Singapore, Syed Najmuddin Hashim presented his credentials today to the Acting President Dr Yeoh Ghim Seng at the latter's official residence, reports AFP. Mr Hashim, who is concurrently Bangladesh Ambassador to Burma, is resident in Rangoon. After presenting his credentials the High Commissioner conveyed the warmest greetings of Acting President Justice Abdus Sattar to the acting President of Singapore who reciprocated the sentiments. Dr Yeoh Ghim Seng and Mr Hashim also discussed matters of mutual interest. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 30 Aug 81 p 12]

**BNP EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**--The National Standing Committee of the BNP at a meeting on Friday had decided to induct three persons as members of the National Executive Committee of the party, reports BSS. According to a Press release of the party the Executive committee had been expanded with the inclusions of Mr Abu Salek an advocate of Khulna, Mr Abdul Hanes Chowdhury of Sylhet and Mr Subodh Mitra of Jessore. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 30 Aug 81 p 12]

**APPEAL AGAINST VIOLENCE**--The National Democratic Front condemned the acts of violence like grenade charge explosion of bombs etc by certain quarters and said that through this the country was being led to a very critical situation. The Front Presidium in a resolution adopted at its meeting on Sunday made this observation Mr Shamsul Huda, Convener of the eight-party Front presided over the meeting. The resolution said meetings processions etc. are part of normal democratic process. But killing of democracy in the name of democratic activity

was looked down upon by the people. The front called upon the patriotic democratic forces to resist this type of unholy act in the interest of continuation of democratic process in the country. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Aug 81 p 1]

AWAMI LEAGUE-M EXECUTIVE--Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury President of AL (Mizan) on Sunday announced the name of 33 members of the Central Executive Committee reports BSS. According to a Press release the Committee includes Mr Ahmed Ali, advocate, Dr Ashbul Haque, Mr Sirajul Haque, Advocate Mr Ahmed Faxiur Rahman, Dr Shamsuddin Chowdhury, Mr Sajed Ali Miah, Advocate Abdul Hakim, Mr Kamruddin Ahmed and Mr Fazlul Karim. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Aug 81 p 1]

DEATH OF MP--Madras, Aug 30--Mr Yar Mohammad Khan, former Bangladesh MP, died yesterday evening at the Vellone Christian Medical College Hospital, reports PTI. The 63-year-old Khan had come from Bangladesh on August 11 for treatment of chronic bronchitis and cancer of the lungs, his son-in-law, Dr Mohammad Shahabuddin, who accompanied him said. The body would be flown to Calcutta this afternoon and would reach Bangladesh tomorrow, he said. He said Mr Khan was a founder-member of the Bangladesh Awami League and was a close associate of Hussian Shahid Suhrawardy, the Awami League's late President. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Aug 81 p 3]

DPRK AMBASSADOR--Mr Jong Tae Gun has been appointed Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to Bangladesh it was officially announced in Dacca on Saturday reports BSS. Born in 1933, Mr Jong Tae Gun is a career diplomat who served in the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its missions abroad in various capacities. At present he is Deputy Director General with the rank and status of Ambassador in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of DPRK. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 31 Aug 81 p 3]

AWAMI LEAGUE-M OFFICIALS--Mr Mizanur Rahman Choudhury, MP, President, Bangladesh Awami League (Mizan) on Sunday announced the names of 33-member of the Central Working Committee and nomination of 10-member to the party's National Committee. The members of the Working Committee and presidents of all district committee are ex-officio members of the AL national committee. The Central Working Committee members include: Dr Asabul Huq, ex-MP, Mr Sirajul Huq Advocate ex-MP, Mr Ahmed Fazlur Rahman, former CSP, Dr Shamsuddin Choudhury, ex-MP, advocate Abdul Hakim ex MP Mr Kamruddin Ahmed, ex-MP Md Fazul Karim, ex-MP, Prof Shamin Mishir, ex MP Mr Afzal Hossain, ex-MP, Mr Mohiuddin Ahmed (Khwaja), Khandaker Nurul Islam Advocate ex-MP, Khaled Mohammad Ali, ex-MCA, Mr Manirul Huq Choudhury, former student leader. [Excerpt] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Aug 81 p 8]

GREETINGS TO LIBYA--The Acting President Mr Justice Abdus Sattar has sent a message of greetings to the Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Al Gaddafi on the twelfth anniversary of the First September revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamhiriya reports BSS. Justice Sattar conveyed his very best wishes for continued peace progress and prosperity for the brotherly people of Libya and health happiness long life for the Libyan leader. He expressed the confidence that the fraternal relations and fruitful cooperation existing between the two brotherly countries would be further consolidated to the mutual benefit of the two peoples in the days to come. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Sep 81 p 1]

## SHEIKH TELLS STAND TOWARD INDIAN GOVERNMENT

Madras THE HINDU in English 16 Sep 81 p 9

[Text] Srinagar, Sept 15--The Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah, has said the move of some non-Congress(I) State Governments to have more powers or "internal autonomy" should not be construed as secession.

Intervening in a discussion on a private member, Mr Abdul Gani Iones bill in the Assembly, seeking to change the name of Governor to "Sadri Riyasaat" as provided in the separate constitution for the State Sheikh Abdullah said today he was not opposed to the amendment. But a ministerial committee had already been appointed to review all those Central laws or amendments made in the State Constitution from 1953 to 1975 when his party was out of power.

The Government would introduce any fresh amendment only after the Committee had submitted its recommendations.

Only those Central laws or amendments made when he was out of power and which had in anyway eroded the internal autonomy were being reviewed, he said.

Besides his Government, some others also wanted to have more powers. The Centre should not view this demand as secession, he said.

Ties With Indian Union: The State's relations with the Indian Union were governed under Art 370 of the Indian Constitution, the Chief Minister said.

Therefore compared to other States, "we enjoy complete internal autonomy and can pick and choose and implement only those Central laws that will be in the larger interests of the people and do not erode our internal autonomy" he said.

However "it is unfortunate that whenever we make any move to safeguard the State's internal autonomy people outside doubt our integrity as if we want to secede from the Indian Union," he said. But the fact is that the State acceded to the Indian Union voluntarily, because the people of the State did not believe in the two-nation theory, Sheikh Abdullah said.

CSO: 4220/7006



## SECURITY FORCE TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM DISPUTED ISLAND

Madras THE HINDU in English 16 Sep 81 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Sept. 15

The Government of India has agreed to withdraw the dozen BSF personnel stationed on the New Moore island on the basis of a firm undertaking by Bangladesh not to attempt any landing on it, pending a final settlement.

The understanding was reached during the Indo-Bangla talks last week as a follow-up of the steps already taken by both sides to withdraw their naval vessels from the vicinity of the island. The one small patrol craft now left in the area will also be pulled out soon.

But the agreement reached to resume the talks by picking up the threads of the discussions that took place in August last year did not imply that India was restoring status quo ante prevailing at that time. The token Indian presence on the island was maintained off and on, as and when required to assert the claim to the island in the face of the Bangladesh attempts to challenge it.

The recent decision to station a small BSF contingent on the island was taken when India had definite information that Bangladesh was attempting to land

its men there. The Indian naval vessels moved into the vicinity only after the Bangladesh warships started violating the territorial waters around the New Moore island.

The decision to pull out the BSF personnel from the island on the basis of the assurances given by Bangladesh does not amount to a withdrawal of the Indian presence as claimed by an official spokesman in Dacca today. As India had no permanent presence on the island at any time, the question of withdrawing as a condition for the resumption of negotiations does not arise.

But the Government of India is not refuting the Bangladesh claim since it does not want the atmosphere to be spoiled for the forthcoming official-level talks on all pending issues, including the New Moore island.

It was for this reason that there was no official comment in Delhi today on the interpretation given by the spokesmen of the Bangladesh Foreign Office on the outcome of the talks between the two Foreign Ministers in Delhi.—Our Political Correspondent.

CSO: 4220/7006



## KERALA CHIEF MINISTER PROTESTS GANDHI VISITS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 8

[Text]

BANGALORE, September 15: "Hands off the states" appeared to be the theme of the Kerala chief minister Mr. E. K. Nayanar, who rounded off his three-day visit to Karnataka today with a strong protest against the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's visits to state capitals to review or inspect plan implementation.

There was no provision in the constitution for such visits nor were they in conformity with the spirit of the constitution, Mr. Nayanar said.

Asked what he would do if Mrs. Gandhi visited Kerala, as she had visited some other states, Mr. Nayanar said, "Let her come and we shall decide. The question is hypothetical."

Mr. Nayanar told the Karnataka

union of working journalists that the only right forum to discuss plan implementation was the National Development Council. Issues should be discussed in the open but it should not be one-sided. The work of the Centre also should be discussed because the main chunk of the plan and finance was with the Centre. Innumerable issues pending with the Centre for months and years should also be taken into account.

The Kerala chief minister claimed that the reason why there had been no conversion to Islam in his state, as had happened in neighbouring Tamil Nadu, was that Kerala had abolished the landlords system. Conversion took place not because of the love for god but because one wanted to save oneself from oppressive landlord system, he remarked.

CSO: 4220/7002

## MINISTER ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON AIR DEFENSE MATTERS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 17 Sep 81 p 7

[Text]

Although Indian aeronautic engineers were doing their best to design and improve the HS 34 Marut and HS 73 the deep penetration aircraft, they had not been able to produce a design as yet which would successfully compete with aircraft being produced in some other countries, Minister of State for Defence (Shiv Raj) Patil said in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, reports UNI.

Replying to Mr Pralap Bhanu Sharma he said re-equipping the Indian Air Force with more effective aircraft was a continuous process and while doing so various factors such as maintainability and effectiveness of new aircraft in the changing threat environments were kept in view.

Mr Patil said another important factor was the availability of these aircraft on reasonable terms. He said it would not be in public interest to disclose the specific steps being taken to modernise IAF.

Mr Patil said as a matter of policy the Government dealt directly with the foreign companies

concerned for defence purchases and not through their agents in India or abroad. He said the policy was to deal at the Government level as far as possible.

Replying to another question, Mr Patil said there were reports that Pakistan had increased its airbase facilities during recent years and had also acquired and was likely to acquire more interceptor aircraft.

Government take cognizance of indications of all weapons systems in our security environment and take appropriate measures to maintain full defence preparedness, he said.

The Minister said the Government was also aware of Pakistan's efforts to acquire uranium enrichment and nuclear fuel reprocessing capability which would enable it to assemble a nuclear device. The Government was equally alive to the implications of Pakistan acquiring a nuclear weapons capability, he said.

CSO: 4220/7007

## FOREIGN MONEY FLOW INTO WEST BENGAL CONTINUES

Madras THE HINDU in English 15 Sep 81 p 10

[Text] Calcutta, Sept 14.

Despite a ban on the activities of foreign missionaries and similar organisations in West Bengal in certain areas, the extent of remittances from abroad has not been affected.

An American-based organisation, which is not functioning here any more, has recently sent large remittances to two individuals, according to reliable sources.

Usually, such payments are made through foreign-owned banks in the country.

The State Government has banned the activities of missionary organisations and similar bodies initially in the tribal areas, and was now considering whether to extend it to cover other regions as well.

According to a Home Department spokesman, foreign money comes in the name of social or religious organisations. While the Government was not prepared to label all such organisations as subversive, evidence of their fishing in troubled waters had been found not only in the tribal majority districts, but also in North Bengal, in connection with the Uttarakhand movement.

Sponsors of this agitation, it may be recalled, have demanded the return to Bangladesh immediately of all displaced persons who have settled in North Bengal.

In Tripura, at least one particular church had been categorically named as having played a role during the disturbances some time ago. It was also suspected that some kind of link between these organisations and regional bodies like the Amra Bangali existed. The Government was keeping a watch over the situation, he said.

CSO: 4220/7000

## CORRUPTION DEEMED BIGGEST THREAT TO STATE

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 4

[Commentary by Girilal Jain]

[Text]

**M**R. GANDHI is on trial — at the bar of history. It will be to her credit if she somehow keeps the system going so long as she is around. But that will not win for her the kind of place Jawaharlal Nehru occupies in Indian history. She will secure such a place only if she can ensure that when she finally leaves the scene, the Indian state is strong and vibrant and the Indian people reasonably well off.

On present reckoning the chances are that she will lead her party such as it is at the next general election in 1985 and that she will once again put her rag-tag band in power. For, it seems unlikely that any opposition party will be in a strong enough position by then to challenge her successfully at the hustings. But if she does not take steps to end the drift now, it will be pointless to expect her to do so in 1985. India has reached another turning point in its history.

If Mrs. Gandhi does not act with grim determination without further loss of time, it is almost certain that the country will once again have taken the downhill path from which there may be no turning back for a long time. This is the inescapable lesson of Indian history. It is, for instance, inconceivable that without Akbar the Moghuls could have consolidated their empire and assured a fairly high degree of law and order and prosperity in the country for over a century. And see what happened when pleasure-loving and incompetent rulers succeeded one another after Aurangzeb.

These days modern states do not disappear as empires did in the past. In the post-war period only

Pakistan has broken up into two. But modern states go into such decline that they no longer deserve to be called states. The Third World is full of instances of cruel and venal men seizing power and establishing tyrannies which are efficient only in terrorising and massacring their own peoples.

**MATERIALISE**

India has already witnessed the rise of corrupt men in public life who think nothing of undermining the future of the country so long as they can make their pile and salt it away in foreign banks. Mercifully, cruel tyrants are still not in evidence in and near the corridors of power. But like maggots they can materialise out of nowhere when the conditions are ripe as they would be if the democratic process is discredited and the elected rulers lose their legitimacy. These are not due contingencies which one has to invent. The democratic system is already under great strain and not many politicians enjoy the respect of the people without which they cannot claim legitimacy.

India faces enormous problems — population explosion, deplorable educational standards, deforestation leading to worsening floods year after year, continued dependence on monsoon for good crops, stagnant technology, low investment, burgeoning trade deficits necessitating large-scale borrowings, inefficient use of available resources, growing caste conflicts leading, among other things, to mass conversions of Harijans to Islam, perpetuation of backwardness and poverty in large parts of the country and 40-45 per cent of the population below or at the poverty line (a

euphemism for destitution in millions of cases).

Even a ruling group fully assured of its legitimacy cannot take sufficiently tough measures to tackle these urgent tasks. Imagine what will happen if the rulers come to depend largely on the coercive apparatus. Incidentally, that, too, is beginning to crack up. Witness the blinding episode in Bhaulpur, looting of buses, trains and banks and the near mutiny in various police and paramilitary forces in large parts of the country in 1979.

On top of it, we are now getting ministers and chief ministers who are almost wilfully undermining the state machinery. They take bribes for the postings and transfers of even poor school teachers; they humiliate senior officials in the presence of their subordinates; they make them dance attendance on them and collect funds for them; and they arbitrarily punish and reward officials. They have still not abolished the rules (thank the British for establishing the procedures so firmly) so that they can auction public offices as the rulers used to do in the olden days. But they have come fairly close to doing so. In several states there is a price for every transfer to a coveted place.

**RESPONSIBLE**

If the rot has spread so far and so deep, what is the point of expecting Mrs. Gandhi to stem it? Her all too numerous detractors go farther and contend that she herself is largely responsible for the decline in the standards of public morality and demoralisation of the administration. But when they overcome their dislike of her, they are

forced to admit that India has no other leader capable of either replacing her through the democratic process or of trying to check the dangerous drift. At least she is in a position to try. Mr. Morarji Desai, for instance, could not even have tried for want of authority in his own party.

On sober reflection we can also agree that the situation is by no means hopeless. Our present-day Pindaris are not men of great daring. They can be made to see sense fairly quickly. Things can visibly improve if the impression spreads that Mrs. Gandhi is keeping an eye on their activities, that she has a reliable machinery to keep her posted and that she will not put up with men who acquire a bad reputation. Men who shivered in their shoes at the very mention of Sanjay Gandhi's name will not risk Mrs. Gandhi's displeasure if they were to know that the consequences would be serious. We have also a fairly large body of fairly honest men and women in the administration, especially at the top levels, who can, given a proper atmosphere, make it difficult for ministers to engage in corruption openly.

To avoid misunderstanding I am not recommending a vigilance role for civil servants over politicians, though, to be candid, I am not critical of the Madhya Pradesh chief-minister's and speaker's decision to encourage district officials to write to them of the pressure legislators bring to bear on them. But what I am suggesting is that officials will be willing and able to stand up to ministers bent on amassing fortunes if they know that there is someone they can appeal to in case they are

sought to be unjustly penalised. We need politicians to see to it that our bureaucrats do not go berserk. But we can no longer depend on our politicians to observe even the minimum norms of propriety. So we need a civil service which is capable of exercising the autonomy which in theory it has never ceased to enjoy in independent India. Judging by Mrs. Gandhi's own address to secretaries to the Union government recently, she, too, seems to be thinking in these terms.

The "puritans" who have no touch with the political reality would have us believe that the rot started in the first years of independence under Mr. Nehru himself. This is an unacceptable proposition, its implication being that parties can do without contributions which in the nature of things must come either from rich individuals and companies or from rich trade unions as in the case of the British labour party.

The "puritans" must know that for some years we have been faced with a phenomenon of altogether different proportions. Under Mr. Nehru, ministers did not enter into deals with businessmen who contributed to party funds. They have been doing so for quite some time. Under Mr. Nehru, they did not siphon off funds for their personal use. Of late they have been doing so. Under Mr. Nehru, by and large only those authorised to collect funds for the party did so. Now almost every minister, especially in the states, is engaged in this enterprise. If the sums raised ran into lakhs then, they run into crores now. Only in this field has inflation been more than taken care of.

## CONTINUED

The rot in its present form started in 1969 when the Congress leadership decided to ban donations by companies. This opened the sluice-gates for collections of black money. The rise of free enterprise in this field is relatively of even more recent origin. It began with the Janata rule when every minister was a law unto himself and it has continued under Mrs. Gandhi, though only in the states. The formula is simple. Profess loyalty to Mrs. Gandhi day in and day out, criticise the judiciary and the press in the wildest language and amass personal fortunes in the name of the party.

The nature of the malady itself suggests the prescription. Donations by companies must be allowed and only the treasurers of the ruling party in the capital and the states be authorised to approach them for contributions. And we should enact legislation prohibiting men and women in office from setting up trusts and foundations under their own and their family members' control. These measures will, of course, not produce a completely clean public life. But they can help contain the menace which has come to threaten the future of the Indian state.

No task, not even the alleviation of mass poverty, is more urgent than to protect the Indian state. India's future hangs on it. We have suffered grievously in the past for want of a strong state. We shall so suffer again if the state goes into desuetude. The freedom and the civil liberties which we rightly prize cannot survive without a viable state. To vary Mr. Nehru's famous statement: The Indian state is in peril, defend it with all your might.



## MINISTER RULES OUT LAW TO PROHIBIT CONVERSIONS

Madras THE HINDU in English 16 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Sept 15

The Union Minister of State for Home, Mr. Yogendra Malviya, has ruled out any legislation to prohibit conversion of Harijans to Islam or any other religion.

"It is the fundamental right of every individual to profess the faith he likes and if anybody voluntarily embraces any religion, the Government cannot prohibit it," he said, replying to a five-hour debate in the Rajya Sabha on the recent mass conversion of Harijans in Tamil Nadu.

Mrs. Satyavenimuthu (AIADMK), who initiated the discussion raised the question whether the Government intended to bring forward legislation to prevent conversions.

**Individual right:** The individual's right to profess any religion was also stressed in the main statement by the Home Minister Mr. Zail Singh.

He said, "India being a secular State, the Constitution guaranteed liberty of faith and worship to all citizens and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion, provided this right did not contravene the provisions of part III of the Constitution 'fundamental rights', and did not impinge upon public order, morality and health."

Mr. Zail Singh, however, hoped that the individual's right of conscience would be exercised in an atmosphere free from coercion or inducements.

Anything that might create social tensions would naturally cause concern and we are confident that the State Governments would take appropriate action, if any violation of law or threat to peace occurs," he said.

**Role of Gulf money:** During the debate some members referred to reports of monetary inducements, including flow of funds from the Gulf countries, to bring about the conversion.

One member sought confirmation of the reported observation of Mr. Zail Singh and the Minister of State for Agriculture, Mr. R. V. Swaminathan, about the possible role played by petro-

dollars in the mass conversion at Meenakshipuram in Tamil Nadu.

But Mr. Malviya replied that the Government had no information of any funds flowing from the Gulf countries. Both Mr. Zail Singh and Mr. Swaminathan had denied the reported observations attributed to them, he said.

**Special programmes:** Mr. Malviya attributed the conversions to socio-economic factors and recounted the steps taken to ameliorate the socio-economic conditions of the Harijans.

He mentioned about the increase in outlay provided for the special component Plan for the Scheduled Castes and to the increase in the ceiling from Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 12,000 in respect of financial assistance given by the Scheduled Caste Development Corporation to each Harijan as margin money for taking up self-employment schemes.

Mr. Malviya also claimed that the amount earmarked for various programmes for the uplift of the scheduled castes constituted six per cent of the total Plan outlay now. The Prime Minister, the Home Minister and he himself had written to the Chief Ministers to implement the special component plan and other programmes.

Since the problem was socio-economic, the Government should be assisted by religious leaders and others in eradicating untouchability and bringing about equality among all classes of society. The Government would play its part by way of propaganda and giving aid for publishing literature, he said.

**Special cell:** Referring to Mrs. Satyavenimuthu's suggestion for an effective machinery to prevent atrocities on the Harijans and ensure their safety, Mr. Malviya said a special cell had been created in the Home Ministry to monitor the implementation of various programmes for the uplift of Harijans.

It was the State Governments' responsibility to ensure safety and protection of Harijans. The Centre had issued the necessary guidelines for this purpose.

**Clash between MPs:** The debate in which members belonging to all parties participated, was marked by a clash between Mrs. Satyavenimuthu and the DMK member, Mr. V. Gopalswamy.

When Mr. Gopalswamy alleged that the Tamil Nadu Government had miserably failed to protect Harijans in the State and referred to the death of a Harijan girl in a party office of AIADMK, Mrs. Satyavenimuthu protested and a wordy duel ensued for sometime.

Calm was restored only after persistent appeal by the Vice-Chairman to Mr. Gopalswamy not to bring in DMK-AIADMK politics.

There were also heated exchanges between some Congress (O) members and Mr. B. D. Khobargade (BPP) when Mr. Khobargade referred to Vedic sanction to the Caste system. He was shouted down by the Congress (O) members who alleged that he was misquoting the scriptures.

**Caste Hindus blamed:** The point made by most members was that the caste Hindus themselves were to be blamed if the Harijans chose to embrace Islam or other religion. They alleged that the caste Hindus, who now made a furor over the conversion, had treated the Harijans as untouchables and perpetrated atrocities on them for decades.

"What were the religious heads, who now show concern for the Harijans, doing all these years?" asked some of the Harijan members.

The Opposition members charged the Government with having failed to eradicate untouchability and bring about social equality even after 35 years of independence.

## PRO-KHALISTAN SIKHS DOING 'IRREPARABLE DAMAGE'

Madras THE HINDU in English 16 Sep 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Aggressive Extremism"]

[Text]

WHAT THE UNION Home Minister, Mr. Zail Singh, said about the Khalistan demand in Punjab at a meeting of the consultative committee of members of Parliament attached to his ministry is a indication of the Centre's concern, belated as it is, over certain dangerous developments in the State. The complacent attitude adopted by the higher-ups towards the protagonists of a separate homeland for the Sikhs — described as a microscopic minority by the Home Minister — now seems to be totally unwarranted. Lala Jagat Narain was vigorously pleading against any further vivisection of Punjab, and he has been brutally done to death. If only the authorities had nipped in the bud provocative activities of the extremist sections, among the Sikhs, things would not have come to this pass. It was said in the Lok Sabha the other day that the response to the State Government's directive to people holding even licensed arms to surrender them has been poor, and there are perhaps many still holding illegal arms. There is no other way of accounting for the recent spurt of violence. On Independence Day, supporters of Khalistan went to the extent of hoisting their flag after tearing the National Flag in many towns in the State and, instead of tracing the culprits and taking stern action against them, the whole affair was brushed aside as no more than the handiwork of a few frustrated elements raising the bogey of a separate State.

Even granting that the large majority of the Sikhs are not in favour of Khalistan right now as is being repeatedly said by the Chief Minister, Mr. Darbara Singh, the truth is that those who support the idea are doing irreparable damage to the cause of national unity. The Akali Dal which at one time presented a picture of cohesiveness is now a divided house because of the unending internecine quarrels among its top leaders. The organisation is split vertically, one section vigorously advocating the idea that the Sikhs are a nation in the belief that such a populist cry will add to its strength and influence among the masses. A former minister in the Badal Cabinet, Mr. Sukhjender Singh, recently resigned from the general secretaryship of the Dal as well as from its working committee and now sits on the Opposition benches as the sole advocate of Khalistan. A few days ago the sponsors of this demand had the temerity to print and distribute their own currency notes in a bid to establish their credibility. There is no knowing to what extent they would go if their activities are permitted to be carried on unchecked. There obviously is a section which is out to create mischief aided and abetted by certain foreign elements, as the Home Minister has hinted. Members of the Sikh community residing abroad are known to have been actively helping the secessionist movement by providing money, and it is time the Government of India took firm steps to end this aggressive extremism.

CSO: 4220/7006

## POOR CONDITIONS IN PAKISTANI REFUGEE CAMP DESCRIBED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 11

[Text] Raipur, September 15 (UNI). No one ever thought that the Mana camp housing the erstwhile East Pakistan refugees, 15 km from here, would justify its appellation "permanent liability houses."

The refugee camp with about 5,000 inmates has now become a camp of frustrated people dissatisfied with the treatment they get from the government. The future poses a big question mark to the people in the camp.

A UNI correspondent who visited the camp found the inmates barely "existing" on the Rs 40 being doled out to each of them by the government every month.

The sub-human living conditions and inhuman treatment meted out to the refugees by the authorities and outsiders alike have turned many bright and educated young men into criminals.

Gangs of such youths have become a terror to fellow inmates and surrounding villages. Recently, some youths from the camp were caught snatching a gold chain from a woman on a train.

About 1,000 girls go outside the camp daily in search of their livelihood. It is alleged that many have taken to prostitution. Several of them do household chores and petty jobs in private factories.

A security officer who wished to remain anonymous said a strict watch was now being kept on the inmates, and if anyone got a job outside, a written undertaking had to be obtained from the employer to protect the girls.

The inmates came here in 1963 after the war with Pakistan. In March last year, the Centre had asked the state government to administer the camps. An estimated Rs 40 lakhs is being spent annually on the "permanent liability homes" at Mana.

The government is proposing to set up a powerloom in the camp under the district industrial centre next month.

More than 30 per cent of the inmates were born in the camp itself, according to a rough estimate.

A young man said many girls had gone to faraway places like Uttar Pradesh, Bombay and Delhi and many of them had taken to prostitution.

Tara Rani Dey, a 28-year-old woman, told this correspondent that she had been driven to the limits of frustration. "We at the camp are always looked down upon even by fellow Bengalis outside the camp," she said.

Tara said the dowry system existed even among penniless refugees.

"There is no job for us. We cannot get government jobs because we have no Indian citizenship, nor is the government coming forward to set up industries to employ us. We are destined to lead lives like this. No one will ever marry us because of the stigma attached to us," she said.

For 14-year-old Sitanshu Sarkar, the future is dark and bleak. Many of his friends, he said, were taking lessons in riding cycle-rickshaws, a popular mode of transport in Raipur. There are cases of harassment by hooligans, both inside and outside the camps, and also by a few unscrupulous camp officials.

CSO: 4220/7002

## PUNJAB, HARYANA HARVESTS THREATENED BY DROUGHT

Madras THE HINDU in English 16 Sep 81 p 8

[Text] The northern region is in the grip of severe drought conditions this year. Paddy, the main kharif crop of Punjab and Haryana, faces large-scale damage which may approximate to the devastation caused by the dreadful drought of 1979. The other kharif crops of these States viz., maize, bajra and cotton are equally hit by drought.

The monsoons virtually withdrew from the region in the middle of August, normally the peak of the rainy season. Monsoons end in this region usually around the middle of September. Even in the first fortnight of August it was below normal rainfall.

Monsoon yielded place to westerly winds which not only lowered humidity but also dried the upper layers of soil in the fields. Evaporation of water increased by about 10 per cent. Paddy plants began to wilt. Saplings sown late were not only stunted but dried on the stalk.

## Erratic Supply

The unfavourable weather condition apart, power supply for operating tube wells became erratic annoying the farmers, particularly the small and marginal farmers. Utter ruination of the crop on which they had pinned their hopes, stared them in the face.

The extent of monsoon failure in the predominantly agricultural Punjab and Haryana can be assessed from the total rainfall during July and August in Ludhiana which is the most productive district of Punjab. It was 364 mm against 666 mm during the same period last year, a position typical of the region.

The dry spell has continued relentlessly and the concern of the farmers and the State governments has grown into grim disquiet. Even yagnas etc failed to propitiate the weather gods.

The Central Government and in particular the Agriculture Ministry must naturally be worried in view of the already depleted buffer stock.

In just one decade Punjab and Haryana had become the rice bowl of India, the two States occupying the first and second positions, leaving behind all traditional rice-growing states.



### Outcry

There was an outcry from the farmers of the two States for a reasonably adequate and regular supply of power to operate the tube wells of which there are at present 3.75,000 in Punjab and more than 2,50,000 in Haryana.

The Union Energy Minister is believed to have convened a high level meeting, including the Bhakra-Bees management board, at Delhi last week to consider the feasibility of additional releases of water from the Bhakra and Pong reservoirs for a short period, notwithstanding the low level of water in them.

This step was to increase power generation as also augment water flows in the Bhakra canals to grapple with the crisis which had overtaken the farm sector not only in Punjab and Haryana but also in Rajasthan.

Thanks to this measure daily eight lakhs and 10 lakhs units more power was made available in Haryana and Punjab respectively from the first week of September. The HSEB has directed the industries to cut consumption by 10 lakh units daily to make that quantity available to the farmers. The major industrial units would have to save 40 per cent power and fall back upon their own generators to make up the deficit. Some of these units might have to be closed for three to four days in a week.

### Appeal to P.M.

The Chief Ministers of the two States have approached the Prime Minister seeking her intervention to ensure the release of an additional 2,000 cusecs and 3,600 cusecs from the Bhakra and Pong reservoirs respectively during the critical period when the paddy crop matures.

The Punjab Chief Minister, Mr. Darbara

Singh, has instructed PSEB as well as the district authorities to accord top priority to ensuring uninterrupted power supply to the agricultural sector for at least 12 hours daily. Until a few days back there was discontent over the frequent trippings and low voltage affecting tube well operations not to speak of the fall in water table in some areas making it hardly sufficient for domestic requirements.

Mr. Darbara Singh also issued a personal note to the Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners to send responsible Revenue and Development department officials to the rural areas to make an on-the-spot day-to-day assessment of power supply to the tube wells and of the over-all condition of the kharif crop. The Deputy Commissioners were also to wire or phone summaries of previous day's reports to the Chief Secretary specifically mentioning the area where power supply duration fell short of 12 hours. The Chief Secretary has been asked to keep the Chief Minister posted with the daily progress in fighting the drought.

### Ad hoc estimate of damage

The Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Bhajan Lal, amidst the political and factional wrangles prior to early next year's elections to the Assembly, is managing to spare time and attention to the anti-drought measures.

According to ad hoc assessments, paddy loss may be of the order of 30 per cent excepting in the amply irrigated areas in the Majha region of Punjab and the Karnal-Kurukshetra belt in Haryana. Damage to crops in some worst hit areas may be as high as 50 per cent. The damaged maize and bajra have been used as fodder. In Bhatinda and Ferozepur districts of Punjab and Hissar district of Haryana cotton crops have been damaged to a large extent.

Maximisation of both canal irrigation and tube well irrigation in some less affected areas has sustained hopes of curtailing drought damage. In fact, there are hopes of a revival of monsoonish spell in the second half of this month, illusory though in the prevailing atmospheric conditions. But the experts in the two agricultural universities of the region would not hazard any opinion of how much of the damaged crop could be salvaged. According to the district authorities, however, the fall in paddy production may not be below 10 per cent of last year's level.

Paddy arrivals in the Punjab and Haryana markets last year were 43 lakh tonnes and 22 lakh tonnes respectively.

#### Support Price

In view of the damage to the paddy crop the Punjab and Haryana farmers expect the Union Government to come to their rescue fixing a remunerative support price. The Agricultural Prices Commission has recommended Rs 115 per quintal this year as against Rs 105 last year. The two State governments have recommended a support price of not less than Rs 130 per quintal.

The Punjab Government has suggested to the Union Food and Agriculture Ministry that FCI should procure 65 per cent of the market arrivals and the State Government the balance. The FCI wants that as in the case of wheat the State Government should procure 75 per cent. The Union Agriculture Ministry wishes to allocate 50 per cent to each of the two agencies.

The tussle over procurement is because of storage and dehusking difficulties. The dehusking is virtually in the hands of the private trade.

Whatever the decision it will apply to Haryana also.

CSO: 4220/7006

GANDHI SAYS FOOD DISTRIBUTION A MAJOR PROBLEM

Madras THE HINDU in English 15 Sep 81 p 7

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 14.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi said here today that the country had achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrains, but the major problem was "distribution."

Addressing a group of 25 American tourists who called on her at residence, the Prime Minister said anti-social elements like hoarders, black marketeers and smugglers also added to the country's problems.

"We dealt with them effectively in my previous regime," Mrs Gandhi said and added that the Janata Government, which came to power in 1977 set them free after the detenus made a plea that they were "political prisoners."

Mrs Gandhi told the American tourists that since Independence the country had changed a great deal and achieved self-sufficiency in many fields. "There is all round improvement in the country," she said.

Referring to the severe drought in the country in 1979, the Prime Minister said it had affected the crop last year. Even now some parts of the country were under drought.

Mrs Gandhi said now our farmers were much better off. The country was large and its problems were many. The results of its achievements did not reach everybody.

She told the visitors that there was better prosperity in Punjab, Haryana, Western U.P. and parts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.--PTI

CSO: 4220/7000

## GEOLOGICAL BOARD DISCUSSES 1981-82 SURVEY PLAN

Calcutta THE STATFSMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

**T**HE annual programme of the Geological Survey of India for 1981-82 was drawn up at a meeting of the Central Geological Programming Board in Calcutta on Tuesday. The programme gives priority to exploration of coal and strategic minerals, geological mapping and exploration of the sea bed. The need for off-shore mineral exploration with the help of some newly-designed research vessels was stressed.

Addressing the meeting, Mr C. S. Swaminathan, Secretary, Department of Mines, Ministry of Steel and Mines, said that efforts would be made to assess the maximum resource potential for geo-thermal power generation. Though power crisis had gripped almost all the countries in the world, the problem was acute in India as it did not have sufficient resources to import oil at the ever-increasing prices.

One of the possible renewable sources was geo-thermal energy, for which the GSI was carrying on investigation, Mr Swaminathan said. A limited potential for power generation had already been identified at Puga in Ladak and in Parvati valley, Himachal Pradesh. Geological experiments were going on at Alokandanda valley in the Himalayan region and in the Narmada and Tapi valleys he said.

A new exploration programme for mercury had been launched by the GSI in the West coast area in collaboration with the National Geophysical Research Institute, the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and the Indian Navy. Explorations at Arnala island off Bombay coast had

indicated the possibility of mercury prospects along the western coast. Moreover, emphasis would be given for research and development of strategic minerals.

A special committee had been formed for this purpose and a new directorate of Special Mineral Project had been set up in the central region at Nazpur, Mr Swaminathan said. Another wing was likely to be set up for the western region very soon, he added.

The GSI has placed orders with the Federal Republic of Germany to obtain a sophisticated deep sea research vessel. It might be delivered shortly. India has a two million square km of exclusive economic zone offering a tremendous opportunity for search of non-living resources and geo-scientific data. The GSI had already acquired a second hand ship from the Shipping Corporation of India. The ship was now being remodelled. This vessel could be used for the GSI's own exploration work by 1982.

High priority has been given to completion of the systematic geological mapping of the entire country. About 49% of the country's total area of 3.29 million square km had already been mapped. Mapping of the inaccessible terrains of the Himalayan and North Eastern States had been taken up, he said. Recently, two officers of the GSI met with serious accidents while on a difficult trek in Arunachal Pradesh and another while working in a glacier in Jammu and Kashmir, he added.

Mr V. S. Krishnaswamy, Director-General of GSI presented the programme for the year, which was accepted by the Board.

CSO: 4220/7004

## CRUDE FLOW FROM NEW WELL OFF BOMBAY DOUBLES

Madras THE HINDU in English 15 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 14. The flow of oil from the newly-discovered offshore oil-field ATV B-57, 35 kilometres to the east of the Bombay High, has more than doubled to 2,500 barrels a day (about 334 tonnes) from the earlier 1030 barrels announced earlier.

Both the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) and the Union Ministry of Petroleum had expected the flow of oil to go up after the completion of acidisation of the newly drilled well.

The acidisation for which hydrochloric acid is used for cleaning up the pores has since been completed and according to the latest reports reaching the Petroleum Ministry, the flow of oil has gone up to 2,500 barrels.

It is hoped that the rate of flow will go up still higher since the testing of oil in the intervening zones is yet to be completed.

At the present rate, the annual production from this well alone would approximate to around about 1.20 lakh tonnes, which will be worth nearly Rs 28.35 crores at current international prices.

As per the 1980-85 Sixth Plan of the ONGC, two more contract seismic parties, apart from ONGC's own seismic survey ship, "Anveshak" are planned for deployment to cover the eastern and western continental shelf and slope areas. A total of 95 exploratory wells are planned to be drilled in the offshore areas for exploration purposes.

The ONGC's plan to step up offshore oil production from 8.5 million tonnes in 1981-82 to 19.12 million tonnes in 1984-85 has been submitted to the Government. The ONGC is also preparing plans for increasing oil production in the north-eastern region.

CSO: 4220/7000



## MP'S DISCUSS 'DISMAL' PERFORMANCE OF UREA UNITS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 8

[Text]

NEW DELHI, September 15.

**M**EMBERS from both sides of the Lok Sabha today expressed concern at the Rs. 171.23-crore loss sustained by the seven public sector fertiliser companies last year and blamed the managements for the poor performance.

The members specially dwelt on the adverse impact of the failure of the companies to raise fertiliser production on the economy. While on the one hand foreign exchange was being frittered away in fertiliser imports, farm output was also suffering owing to the shortfall in fertiliser supplies.

Through supplementaries, during question-hour, the members said the performance of most fertiliser units in the country was 'dismal' and this was due to the fact that the management of the factories continued to remain under bureaucratic control.

Replying to the members, Mr. P. C. Sethi, minister for petroleum, chemicals and fertilisers, disagreed with the view that the poor performance was due to bureaucratic control. He pointed out that the personnel for the management of the units were selected by the bureau of public enterprises.

## CAUSES OF POOR OUTPUT

The minister listed the causes of the poor production in the fertiliser factories as non-availability of feed-stock due to the Assam agitation, power cuts imposed by the state governments and shortage of inputs like coal. Equipment problems and design constraints were the other factors.

The members, however, did not seem to be fully convinced. Mr. Chandrajit Yadav said the production in some factories was as low as seven per cent of the installed capacity. All the factors, mentioned by the minister, he thought, could not account entirely for this state of affairs.

Mr. Yadav said lack of planning and co-ordination were the main reasons for the shortfall in production.

These factors were responsible for the heavy losses. Consequently, the country was suffering.

Mr. A. K. Roy (Ind) also felt that there was a woeful lack of planning and co-ordination. He said the two fertiliser plants at Sindri and Durgapur were located in the coal belt and yet they were based on gas. Was the government considering changing them into coal-based units? he asked.

Mr. Sethi said the two coal-based plants at Talcher and Ramagundam had been set up only recently and a decision on installing more coal-based units would depend on their performance. He pointed out that the cost of production of coal-based plants was higher than those of gas-based plants. And since gas was available, it was decided to set up such units at Sindri and Durgapur.

The minister, however, conceded that the fertiliser plants were facing problems. The plants at Sindri and FACT in Kerala were very old. There was no point in trying to modernise FACT. The Durgapur plant was a "sick child".

## NITROGENOUS FERTILISERS

Mr. Sethi nevertheless claimed that the performance of the public sector units was improving with the removal of some of the bottlenecks. The production of nitrogenous fertilisers was expected to touch 30 lakhs tonnes this year against 20 lakh tonnes last year.

He said the performance of the plants was not uniformly bad. For example, the production of the Madras plant was 98.6 per cent of the rated capacity. Additional projects were under implementation. It was proposed to start work on eight new nitrogenous and 11 new phosphatic plants during the sixth plan.

However, even with the expected yield of 45 lakh tonnes of nitrogenous fertilisers at the end of the sixth plan, the country would have to continue to import fertilisers.

## UREA UNITS CLOSED TO GIVE POWER TO IRRIGATION

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 8

[Article by G. K. Pandey]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, September 15. THE government has been forced to shut down two of its outstanding fertiliser plants at Bhatinda and Nangal in order to provide more power for irrigational purposes, it is authoritatively learnt.

Although the closure of these plants would mean heavy losses in fertiliser production, the government has apparently taken this drastic step keeping in view the enormity of the problem created in the wake of prolonged dry spell.

The closure of the plants would mean a loss of 2,700 tonnes of urea (Rs. 60 lakhs) per day. Besides, the sudden shut down of the plants is dangerous for the sophisticated machinery and equipment.

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, member, planning commission, who is an authority on agriculture, told this correspondent that the decision to shut down the Nangal and Bhatinda plants had been taken keeping in view "the alternative competing demands."

Dr. Swaminathan said, at least a million tonnes of additional rice could be ensured by providing the much-needed water to the standing paddy crop.

## CRISIS SITUATION

The prolonged dry spell, lasting over six weeks, has created a crisis situation. Severe cuts have been applied in the supply of power to industrial and other consumers, from

the northern grid. And if necessary, more cuts in power supply to other than the agriculture sector would be applied to save the paddy crop.

Agricultural experts are of the firm view that with assured irrigation, the standing paddy crop in the surplus states of Punjab and Haryana can be saved. It is stated that during 1978-79 when the country suffered one of the worst drought conditions, there were practically no losses in paddy output in Punjab because over 90 per cent of the area is irrigated.

Sources here point out that since adequate supplies of diesel and power have now been ensured, losses in production would be minimised. However, no one is inclined to hazard a guess at this time regarding the extent of loss in paddy output because of the failure of rains.

The attainment of food target of 138 million tonnes fixed for the current year by assumed added significance because of the sharp decline in the official foodgrains inventory. Against 18 million tonnes last year, the food inventory at this time is around 14 million tonnes.

In order to control market prices and to keep sufficient stocks of foodgrains to meet the requirement of public distribution system the government had decided to import 1.5 million tonnes of wheat from the U.S. The first shipment of wheat from the U.S. is expected to touch Indian shore in the next couple of days.

CSO: 4220/7002

## BRIEFS

**CONTRACTS FROM LIBYA**--New Delhi, Sept 14--The National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) has secured new contracts in Libya valued at over Rs 200 crores. These include construction of public buildings at Ghat, Fivet, Berkat, Gatrone and Mazruk area (Rs 95 crores), road construction at Ghat, Fivet and Barkat (Rs 65.5 crores) construction of 225 houses at Ghat and Viet (Rs 35 crores) and roads illumination work in Beniwalid area (Rs 4.5 crores). With these new contracts, the project export of NBCC have increased to Rs 400 crores. A few other offers of the Corporation for the construction of an electrical institute at Zilton, air strips, farm roads and township at Misurata valued about Rs 400 crores are under negotiation. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 15 Sep 81 p 7]

**KULABA AIRSTRIP PLANS**--New Delhi, September 15--The permission to construct an air-strip at Kudal in Kulaba (now Raigarh) district was given in March last to the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, subject to clearance from the Indian Air Force and the navy. This was disclosed today in a written reply by the minister of state for tourism and civil aviation, Mr Chandulal Chandrakar, to Mrs Margaret Alva (Congress-S). The request of the MIDC was to facilitate local people to get the facility of air travel, it was stated. The civil aviation department has no information about the land acquisition proceedings for the airstrip and complaints from landowners. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 5]

**INDO-AFRICAN SOLIDARITY COUNCIL**--New Delhi, September      new organisation to promote relations between India and the African couni      has come into being under the presidentship of Mr S. S. Mohapatra, M.P. and general secretary of the all-India Congress committee. The Indo-African solidarity council held a reception last night for the heads of African mission and the representative of the African National Congress. Several MPs and ministers were present. Mr Mohapatra said India under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru had fully supported the African freedom struggle. Mrs Indira Gandhi had, in the same tradition, taken every opportunity to demonstrate India's solidarity with the African nations fighting against the colonial rule. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Sep 81 p 5]

**SHEIKH REJECTS INTELLIGENCE BUREAU**--Srinagar, Sept 15--The Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah, said that he had not accepted the jurisdiction of the Intelligence Bureau over the State, reports UNI. "Why cannot our own agencies be trusted"? he asked while speaking in the State Assembly over a

motion, seeking extension of time for the presentation of a select committee report on a private member's Bill. He added "India is our homeland and we must be proud to call ourselves Indians." [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 9]

**SUPPORT FOR JUTE**--New Delhi, Sept 15--The Government today announced cash compensatory support of 7.5% of the FOB value for jute cloth and hessian with effect from today. It was announced that the matter had assumed urgency because exports of hessian were not picking up and there was a recessionary trend in the world market. The decision follows a detailed review of the jute industry's problems by the Commerce Ministry. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 9]

**WIRE ROD SHORTAGE**--Mr Umesh Kumar Modi, chairman, Steel Wire Manufacturers Association of India, said in Calcutta on Tuesday that mild steel wire rods, the basic material required to manufacture steel wires, continued to be in short supply. Talking to reporters, he said that a major producer of wire rods in the country was the Bhilai Steel Plant, which could hardly meet 25% of the requirements of the steel wire industry. Under the circumstances, he suggested, that the Government continue its present policy of allowing imports of wire rods under the O.G.L. to avoid a raw material crisis for the steel wire industry. Mr Modi said that the Government had already increased the Customs duty and countervailing duty on imported rods, giving sufficient protection to the indigenous producers. The landed cost of imported rods was about Rs 5,100 a ton, against Rs 4,650 for indigenous products. Thus, the imports, if continued, would not create any problem for the producers in the country to sell their products. Mr Modi also referred to the difficulties being faced by stainless steel manufacturers mainly because of the increase in import duty on stainless steel wire rods to 80%. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 9]

**SOVIET SHIPPING TEAM**--Representatives from the Soviet shipping line, Blasco, and the Russian trade visited the container terminal at Calcutta port on Monday to explore the possibility of increasing container traffic between Indian and Russian ports. The members of the delegation held discussions with the chairman of Calcutta Port Trust, Mr R. H. M. D'Silva and the General Manager. Mr M.K. Verma, Port Trust sources said that the Russian experts had been satisfied with the improvements made at the container terminal at Calcutta during the past eight months. The Russians indicated that a gearless cellular ship, carrying 772 containers would regularly call in this region once every six weeks from the end of 1981. They raised the issue of transporting containers between Calcutta and Haldia by the river route and requested the Port chairman to rationalize the container-handling rates at Calcutta to bring it on a par with the prevailing rates at other Indian ports. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 9]

**ASSAM 'SETTLEMENT' OPPOSED**--New Delhi, Sept 15--Prominent leaders of Leftist parties met Mrs Gandhi here today and expressed their "Opposition" to the reported "settlement" on the Assam issue between the Government and the agitation leaders, reports UNI. The leaders submitted a joint memorandum. They are understood to have told Mrs Gandhi that they had learnt from Press reports about a series of confidential talks between the Cabinet Secretary and between

the Cabinet Secretary and the representatives of the Assam agitators and that a final agreement was likely to be reached by the time present Parliament session ended. The memorandum questioned the validity of any such consultations held after the terms of settlements and added "such consultation will be meaningless." [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 16]

TEAM TO PRC--New Delhi, Sept 15--A further evidence that China intends to follow an "open door" policy was the departure of a four-member Indian delegation to Beijing during the weekend to observe ecology, environment and conservation at the invitation of the People's Republic Government. The members will study flood control, soil erosion, curbs on noise pollution in urban areas and afforestation. The visit, which is to last three weeks, will take the delegation to several remote parts of the country. Since the problems are akin to those prevailing in this country, the team's observation will evoke considerable interest here. The members are Mr B. B. Vohra, chairman, National Committee on Environmental Planning, Mr L. M. Nath, member Indian Wildlife Board, Mr Digvijay Singh, MP and Mr Dalip Mathai. [Excerpt] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 16 Sep 81 p 16]

SOCIALIST LEADER DIES--Bombay, Sept 16 (PTI)--Socialist leader, D. S. Thakur, was killed in an accident here last night. He was 61. He is survived by his wife and three sons. The jeep in which Mr Thakur was travelling collided with a state transport bus in central Bombay yesterday. He was thrown out of the jeep and removed to a private clinic where he breathed his last. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 17 Sep 81 p 4]

CSO: 4220/7001



## BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON INDONESIAN PERSONALITIES

[Unless otherwise noted, the following information on Indonesian personalities has been extracted from Indonesian language sources published in Jakarta.]

MAJ GEN H SUKAJI--The chief justice of the Indonesian Supreme Court, Maj Gen (retired) Dr Haji Sukaji Hendrotomo, on 15 July 1981 died peacefully at Gatot Subroto Hospital in Jakarta, after being treated for more than a month for an illness which he suffered. The deceased was buried on 15 July at Kalibata Heroes Cemetery in Jakarta. The deceased was 56 years old when he died, leaving a wife, three sons, and three daughters. The last position which the deceased held in the military field was that of chief justice of the armed forces in the Ministry of Defense and Security. The educational background of the deceased included attendance at the Military Justice Academy in 1959, the Military Justice Graduate School in 1963, and the Army Staff and Command School in 1966. Decorations which he held included the Guerrilla Star, the Eight Year Service Star [Bintang Sewindu], the 16-year Service Medal, the Independence War Medal I and II, Military Operations Medals I to V, the Dwidya Sitha Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Kartika Eka Paksi Medal III. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 16 Jul 81 p 2] 5170

MAJ GEN RAIS ABIN--Maj Gen Rais Abin, presently assistant for general plans at the Ministry of Defense and Security, has been appointed Indonesian ambassador to Malaysia. He replaces Ambassador Makmun Murod, who has completed his tour of duty. Rais Abin became well-known when UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, with the agreement of the governments of Indonesia, Egypt, and Israel, appointed him as commander of the UNEF (United Nations Emergency Force) in the Middle East. He held this command for two years (1977-1979). Before serving in the Middle East, Rais Abin was deputy commander of the Army Staff and Command School in Bandung. Rais Abin was born on 15 August 1926 in Bukittinggi. He has three children: two daughters and one son. His wife, Dewi Rais, is well-known in her own right as a reporter and a writer. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 17 Jul 81 p 12] 5170

BRIG GEN DR H ASWASMARMO--Brig Gen Dr H Aswasmarmo was appointed to the post of secretary general of the Ministry of Religion of President Soeharto in presidential decision letter [SK] No 128/M dated 14 July 1981. The post of secretary general of the ministry had been vacant since 16 June 1981, when the previous incumbent, Dr Marah Ali Siregar, died. Brig Gen Aswasmarmo was previously fourth assistant to the minister of state for the control of the state apparatus, who is concerned with the security of operational tasks. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 24 Jul 81 p 2] 5170

H ABDUL QADIR BASALAMAH--H Abdul Qadir Basalamah was appointed to the post of inspector general of the Ministry of Religion by President Soeharto in presidential decision letter [SK] No 128/M dated 14 July 1981. The post of inspector general of the ministry had been vacant since 16 June 1981, when the previous incumbent, Dr Marah Ali Siregar, died. Inspector General H Abdul Qadir Basalamah is a senior official of the Ministry of Religion who once held the post of attache for pilgrimage affairs in the Indonesian Embassy in Jiddah. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 24 Jul 81 p 2] 5170

DR AHMAD ARIF--The post of director general of penal administration in the Ministry of Justice on Monday [27 July] was transferred from Dr Ibnu Susanto to Dr Ahmad Arif. Ahmad Arif, who was born in Semarang on 18 September 1928, initially held the post as chief of the Employees Education and Training Center of the Ministry of Justice. Before becoming chief of the Employees Education and Training Center [KAPUSDIKLAT] he was a "Penal Administration man" with the post of secretary of the Directorate General of Penal Administration. He graduated with a law degree from the University of Indonesia in 1958. Later he obtained a master's degree in public administration from Indiana University, in the United States, in 1962. After serving in the government for 25 years he is now classified as a senior official (IV-d PGP). [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Jul 81 p 12] 5170

DR IBNU SUSANTO--In the course of transfer of the post of director general of penal administration in the Ministry of Justice on 27 July from Dr Ibnu Susanto to Dr Ahmad Arif, the minister of justice, Maj Gen Ali Said, said that Dr Susanto had made a major contribution to national development during the time he held the post. His work provided a strong and useful foundation for the future functioning of the Directorate General of Penal Administration. It is not yet clear what will be Dr Ibnu Susanto's next assignment. Before becoming director general of penal administration six years ago, Dr Susanto was secretary of the National Law Development Body [Badan Pembinaan Hukum Nasional]. [Excerpts] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Jul 81 p 12] 5170

DONO INDARTO--The chief of staff of the Indonesian Air Force, Air Marshal Ashadi Tjahjadi on Wednesday [29 July] at the Air Force section of the Armed Forces Academy in Yogyakarta presided over the retirement ceremony of 13 senior Air Force officers. Included among them was Dono Indarto, who at present is still chief of the National Search and Rescue Organization. [Excerpt] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 30 Jul 81 p 12] 5170

PROF DR BUYA HAMKA--The grand ulama [religious teacher] of Indonesia, Prof Dr Buya Hamka, on Friday [24 July] died at age 73. Buya, who was born on 17 February 1908 in Sungai Batang, near Lake Maninjau in West Sumatra, had been under treatment for a week at the Pertamina Hospital. He was suffering from heart disease, inflamed lungs, and an obstruction in a blood vessel of the brain. Prayers for him will be recited at the Al Azhar Mosque. The full name of the deceased was Abdulmalik bin Abdulkarim bin Amrullah bin Abdullah bin Shalih, but he was better known by the name of Hamka. Buya Hamka, the highest-ranking ulama who had many followers as the senior imam of Al Azhar Mosque and as general chairman of the Indonesian Council of Ulama, resigned from these positions on 19 May 1981. He entered the Pertamina Hospital on Friday, 17 July. When they heard that Buya Hamka was being treated at the hospital, many community leaders and government officials came to visit him. All of them prayed that Buya Hamka might recover quickly from his illness. [Excerpts] [Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 25 Jul 81 p 1] 5170

**DIDIN S DAMANHURI**--Didin S Damanhuri (28 years old) was born in Talaga-Majalengka, West Java. He is a graduate of the Faculty of Economics of Padjadjaran University, having majored in general economics. He is presently working as a staff researcher for the Economic and Social Research, Education, and Information Council (LPJES) in Jakarta and is teaching at the Bogor Agricultural Institute [IPB]. Since 1978 he has been a staff researcher at the Center for Research on Economic Sources of Power (PPES) at the Faculty of Economics of Padjadjaran University. He has written numerous articles on economic, social, student/university questions for KOMPAS, PIKIRAN RAKYAT, PUSTAKA [Bandung Technological Institute], SALEMBA, and other publications. As a member of a Padjadjaran University team, he participated in writing for the Research Study Project of the National Defense and Security Council. His study was entitled, "Comparison Between Indonesian Economic Concepts and Economic Concepts Based on Liberalism and Socialism" (1978). He wrote a study for the Research and Development Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, entitled, "Ideologies and Their Implementation and Development in the Life of the State (Economic Sector)" (1978). He was a member of the Student Senate in the Faculty of Economics at Padjadjaran University (1973-1974); general chairman of the Padjadjaran University Student Council (1977); editor of the student newspaper IDEA (1976); and an editor of ECONOMIA (1974). He took a graduate course in "Cooperative Economic Science" at Marburg University in the Federal Republic of Germany, in the framework of a cooperative project between the Faculty of Economics of Padjadjaran University and Marburg University (1980). [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 5, May 81 p 88] 5170

**NURIMANSJAH HASIBUAN**--Nurimansjah Hasibuan was born in Talu (West Sumatra). He graduated in 1967 with a degree in the economics of industry from the Faculty of Economics of Krisnadwipayana University. He taught at the Jakarta Senior High School (1963-1968) and from 1969 to the present has been a staff instructor at the Faculty of Economics of Sriwijaya University. In addition to carrying on research and attending seminars he has been assigned to participate in development planning in South Sumatra (1973 and 1978) and in Jambi (1973). In 1976 he did higher studies on higher education, regional economies, and the measurement of defects in the division of income at the Faculty of Economics of the University of New South Wales in Australia. He was a member of the National Development Commission at the coordination meetings of the National Defense and Security Council (1977-1978). At present he is engaged in graduate studies at Gadjah Mada University. He has written a number of articles for EKONOMI DAN KEUANGAN INDONESIA, MASYARAKAT INDONESIA, SUARA GURU, INDONESIAN QUARTERLY, and KAMI [student newspaper] (1970-1973). [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 5, May 81 p 88] 5170

**SAYAHNIAR MAHNIDA**--Syahnar Mahnida was born in Labuan Deli. He is a lawyer and an instructor in the lawyer's assistant course sponsored by PERADIN [Indonesian Lawyers' Union], and is also director of the course and of the educational program of the Legal Assistance League. He graduated with a degree in law from the Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia in 1971. He was a member of the board of GASBIINDO [Association of Indonesian Islamic Trade Unions] (1966-1967) and a defense attorney for the Legal Assistance League (labor section). From January to February, 1967, he observed labor activity in the Federal Republic of Germany. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 5, May 81 p 88] 5170

T MULYA LUBIS--T Mulya Lubis was born in Muara Botung (North Sumatra) in 1949. He is the director of the Legal Assistance League (LBH) in Jakarta. He graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia (1974). He later took a master's degree at the University of California in Berkeley, in the United States, graduating in 1978. For one year he was a visiting scholar at that university. His other positions include that of a staff instructor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Indonesia and a staff member of the Center for the Study of Law and Economics in Jakarta. [Text] [Jakarta PRISMA in Indonesian No 5, May 81 p 88] 5170

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CSO: 4213/92



## NEW UNITS FORMED TO COMBAT SOUTHERN INSURGENCY

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 Aug 81 p 10

[Text] **D**ESPITE repeated government claims of heavy casualties suffered by southern communist insurgents since the beginning of the year, the recent announcement to form two more counter-insurgency units in the South apparently indicated official concern over the nagging problem.

It is no secret that terrorism in the South is unique and more complicated than those in other regions. The region is not only plagued with communist guerrillas, but also infiltrated by southern separatist movements and the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM).

Officials in the Fourth Army Region said about 20 separatist movements have been actively moving in the southernmost provinces of Pattani, Narathiwat, and Yala with a common aim of secession.

Meanwhile, the area of operation by CPM is the border province of Yala which is regarded as a major sanctuary and springboard for the communist Malays, according to the sources.

The complexity of the problem has prompted the government to set up a special unit assigned to directly cope with the

problems related to terrorism.

The unit, named the Southernmost Province Administration Centre (SPAC) is empowered to overrule the provincial administrations in Songkhla, Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat, and Satun.

The powerful SPAC is directly under the command of the Fourth Army Region Commander Lt Gen Juan Wananarat who is responsible to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda so far as the security problem in the South is concerned.

The formation of SPAC was a clear indication of government efforts to handle the problems which the provincial adminis-

trations could not possibly solve, the source said.

Apart from SPAC, the Fourth Army Region also set up special combined forces — codenamed Civilian-Police-Military units or CPM units

to directly cope with insurgency in the 14 southern provinces.

So far there are three such combined units: CPM 41, CPM 42, and CPM 43 to maintain security in their respective provinces in the South.

The government recently announced that two more of such units would be formed in October this year "to deal with the worsening situation in the

South. The new units — CPM 44, and CPM 45 — will be reportedly responsible for the areas in Chumphon, Ranong, Trang, and Phatthalung provinces.

CPM 41, CPM 42 and CPM 43 are now responsible for Phatthalung, Trang, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Chumphon, Surat Thani, Ranong, Phuket, Phangnga, Krabi, and Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, Songkhla and Satun respectively.

The setting up of the two new CPM units means lesser area of jurisdiction for each of the units and an overall increase in the reinforcement for the South.

Military sources said the 28 companies of volunteer rangers



posted in the South would be shortly reinforced with 15 new companies — a clear indication of intensified activities by terrorists.

Despite official claims of successive victories over communists, senior military officials admitted renewed attempts by the insurgents to extend their operation area northward.

The trend, admittedly, has alerted the military men and is believed to be the main cause for the plan to set up two new CPM units.

A report of the Fourth Army Region might possibly reflect the thoughts of government officials towards the new trend. It said: "Southern communists tended to expand their operation areas to Chumphon, Ranong, Phangnga, and Krabi provinces and the setting up of provincial committees by the communists in these provinces could not be ruled out."

A high-ranking official in the Fourth Army Region told *The Nation*: "We have got to nip it in the bud. We believed that their efforts were aimed at cooperation with Burmese Com-

munist.

He added that communist parties in the region were forced to be more cooperative with one another because of the shift in the policy of China which tended to give them less support.

The Communist Party of Thailand did

not only try to link its operation with Burmese communists, it also attempted to expand its influence southward to effect closer cooperation between CPT and CPM by reducing the influence of southern separatist movements, the same source said.

Southern communists have so far established provincial committees in the four areas of Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Phatthalung-Trang-Satun, and Songkhla.

The announcement of the new combined forces thus reflected the thinking of senior military men in the South that military attacks were a major factor in suppressing communist insurgents — though Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda's policy of having politics leading military in dealing with communist expansion of influence.

As Fourth Army Region Commander Lt Gen Juan put it recently, if we have only good political policy without strong military forces, then our country could not survive."

## PRK MEDICAL PROBLEMS, ACHIEVEMENTS NOTED

Hanoi VIETNAM COURIER in English May 81 pp 6-7

[Text] **T**WO years have elapsed since Pol Pot's genocidal regime collapsed. Observers of all political complexions have testified to the country's rapid recovery. The medico-sanitary efforts deployed have played a central role in this process, and are all the more impressive that they took place within the context of a society shaken to its very roots.

Upon liberation the population suffered from denutrition and grave deficiencies resulting from four years of forced labour and acute food shortages. Cases of cholera were reported in several provinces. Malaria and tuberculosis were rife.

All maternity homes, all the country's 62 hospitals and research centres had been left to waste, and their buildings and equipment smashed. The same was true of the Medical and Pharmacological Faculty, and all the secondary medical schools. There were practically no stocks of medicines. Teachers, doctors and nurses had suffered the same fate as the rest of the population: some were massacred right at the beginning, and the others, driven out of the towns and forced to do hard labour, were killed or died of disease and exhaustion. The breakdown of survivors in January 1979 was as follows: 56 doctors, 28 dentists, 29 pharmacists, 249 midwives and 716 State nurses. Not a single one of the country's 19 "agrégé" lecturers had escaped the massacre. All the survivors were spread throughout the countryside.

Pol Pot only tolerated "barefoot doctors", trained in three months. Indeed he claimed, in a report to the cadres of the Eastern provinces, that "to know how to read, to know French are not necessary; social origin alone is important. Cultural levels are of no significance, as they will not help us cure people". As a result, 80% of patients died in these "hospitals".

These are the ruins on which Kampuchea undertook to build a new medico-sanitary system which now covers the whole country, with the aim of serving townspeople and country people alike. To this end the people's energies were mobilised around the surviving medical personnel, while the international aid was used to best effect.

Very rapidly hospitals were restored and re-opened in Phnom Penh and all the provincial and district centres. Phnom Penh has 8 centrally-run hospitals, including one specialising in paediatrics and another in tuberculosis. Some provinces, such as Koh Kong, Battambang, Kompong Cham and Pursat, even have two hospitals each. 90% of the villages (1,148 out of 1,286) have infirmaries and maternity homes. Not counting the latter, the country now has 6,000 hospital beds (1).

Emphasis has also been placed upon training hospital staff.

The survivors were immediately dispatched to the various hospitals by the Health Ministry. By July

1979 a central nursing school had opened in Phnom Penh to train auxiliary staff. One year later, 256 nurses graduated there. Provincial schools were also opened. After one year's preparations, the Medical and Pharmacological Faculty re-opened on 7 December 1980, attended by the surviving students: 506 medical students and 222 pharmacology students, spread amongst the various years, up to the 6th in medicine and the

5th in pharmacology. In June 1980, 8 doctors of medicine and 9 pharmacists graduated, and 27 and 18 respectively in January 1981. The teaching medium was French. A commission was set up to elaborate a curriculum in the Khmer language for the first year of the coming academic year.

In 1981 Kampuchea has 160 Doctors of Medicine, dentists and pharmacists. All included, there are about 10,000 medico-sanitary staff at all levels.

Three pharmaceutical factories have been restored. Production in the first two years reached 150 tonnes of injectable serums, of various medicines in the form of ampoules, pills, syrups, eye-washes, etc. The provincial hospitals try to produce serums and medicines themselves. The pharmaceutical departments set up have processed 2,500 tonnes of international medical aid in medicines and equipment.

The medical staff has got down to the job of restoring the population's health with truly revolutionary ardour. Ten million cases have been dealt with and prescriptions given. The hospitals have admitted several tens of thousands of patients. Mass vaccinations prevented a cholera epidemic in May 1980. Measures to counter malaria were taken right from the start. Following the initial emergency measures, a national, long-term programme was launched with the help of Vietnamese experts. Anti-tuberculosis teams were organised, and are working with help from the WHO.

The measures, achieved in record time, are all to the credit of the Kampuchean staff, of the leadership of the National United Front and the People's Revolutionary Council, without ignoring the crucial role of international aid, of Vietnam, the USSR, the other socialist countries, and of international organizations such as UNICEF, ICRC, OXFAM, etc. In particular, right from the start, the Vietnamese Ministry of Health sent medicines, medical equipment and, above all, a sizeable contingent of doctors and technicians to help their Kampuchean colleagues treat patients, stop epidemics, restore hospitals, train personnel and organize the medico-sanitary network.

However, two years are not enough to eliminate the consequences of a regime such as Pol Pot's. Social diseases are still rife: malaria, tuberculosis, trachoma, psychic ailments, etc. Everywhere present, the medico-sanitary network must nevertheless be further consolidated. Pharmaceutical production is far below the levels required.

Kampuchean cadres are busy consolidating the network and expanding it with centres of epidemiology and prophylaxis, of malaria and tuberculosis prevention, while constantly seeking to improve the personnel at all levels.

Prophylaxis and general hygiene are emphasized, along with protecting the mother and child. The aim is to progressively eliminate malaria, to get tuberculosis and other social diseases under control and take steps to prevent them. The manufacture of drugs from local raw materials is encouraged, as well as the study of traditional medicine.

The Kampuchean people is courageously confronting these difficult and complex tasks. And doubtless the international community will continue to provide a much needed and appreciated help.

LE VIET CHUNG

## OVERVIEW OF ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 5 Aug 81 pp 2, 5

[Text] With a per capita income of \$90 (1979 estimate), the Lao People's Democratic Republic is one of the poorest nations in the world. The country is landlocked and, except for a strip of varying width along the Mekong River is mountainous. Transport within the country, as well as to the sea, is difficult and costly. These geographical characteristics and the sparse population have resulted in a highly fragmented pattern of relatively isolated zones of economic activity. Agriculture absorbs most of the local labour force; industrial activity is minimal.

The low income of the country is also in part the result of Lao sociopolitical history. With some interruptions, Laos has been besieged by armed conflict over nearly three decades, leaving in its wake destruction of productive assets and profound structural distortion. During these years the rural population, attracted by employment opportunities and safety, migrated in large numbers to the cities. While output in agriculture and forestry—the mainstays of the economy—stagnated, or fell, economic activity in the urban areas expanded rapidly because it was mainly geared to the servicing of the needs of a large high-income expatriate community and of a growing civil service. Exports covered only 10 per cent of imports in the first half of the 1970s, and the current account deficit of the balance of payments, equivalent to about a quarter of gross national product (GNP), was entirely financed by aid programmes. Large aid programmes permitted Laos to absorb most of the liquidity in the economy through budget deficits, as well as to maintain an exchange and trade system relatively free of restrictions. The result was a reasonably good price performance.

The end of the conflict in Indo-China in 1975 coincided with an abrupt reduction in both the size of the foreign community and external assistance from non-socialist countries. Simultaneously local managers, trained civil servants, and foreign experts fled the country in large numbers, leaving behind a dismantled administration and an idled production base. The priorities of the Government that came into power at the end of 1975 and created the Lao People's Democratic Republic were the resettlement of early a third of the population in their areas of origin, the establishment of a new administration, the creation of job opportunities and the revival of domestic production capacity.

**Economic Reforms of 1980.** Although progress had been achieved by the end of 1979 in several areas (output, exports, prices, and control of public outlays), the economy continued to suffer from low yields in agriculture, large urban unemployment, and severe price distortions. Free market prices were still multiples of official prices, which discouraged output and exports and prevented an efficient allocation of budgetary resources. Indeed, 25 per cent of budget expenditures was for consumer subsidies and the financing of the losses of inefficient state enterprises. The weakness of the financial position of state enterprises was due mainly to their low levels of activity and to pricing policies that prevented costs from being passed on to the prices of final products. Moreover, the Lao economy continued to rely heavily on foreign aid, which financed over 50 per cent of budgetary expenditures in 1979 and nearly two thirds of total imports. Finally, self-sufficiency in food-grain was still to be achieved, so

that imports of foodgrains—combined with a rising oil bill—had to be made at the expense of imports of essential raw materials and capital goods.

These shortcomings, and the related requirements for substantial policy change, were recognized by the Lao Government and were the subject of much deliberation by the Party Central Committee and the Government. A new policy guideline (Resolution of the Seventh Plenary of the Party Central Committee) was issued in November 1979, resulting in the introduction in late 1979 and early 1980 of major changes in virtually all policies. First, official pricing policies were made more flexible and producer prices of agricultural produce and of exportables were raised by amounts, ranging between 400 and 500 per cent to ensure a real increase in the purchasing power of producers, while special import programmes for farmers were implemented in 1980. Concomitantly, in order to reduce distortions and the attendant economic inefficiencies and to reduce the amount of budget subsidies, the official sales prices of most products, including rice and petroleum products, were increased to levels that covered costs and incorporated a profit margin and, in many cases, to free market levels. Second, a new currency, the "kip national", was introduced in December 1979, when about 10 per cent of the stock of currency was eliminated. Third, the exchange rate of the kip was depreciated from KN 4 to KN 10 per U.S. dollar. Fourth, the authorities abolished all administrative barriers to the international circulation of goods and liberalized private border trade. And fifth, the decision-making process in state enterprises was decentralized, providing them with more autonomy in daily management and, in particular, in foreign contracting.

The above set of policy changes formed the basis of a financial programme supported by a one-year stand-by arrangement with the Fund (June 1980-May 1981) in the amount of SDR 14 million, or 3½ per cent of the country's quota. During the first half of the programme, additional measures were implemented to provide added incentives to producers in particular in agriculture. For instance, the agricultural tax, which was highly progressive in

nature and based on actual output, was changed to a fixed land-based tax in August 1980, simplifying at the same time the task of assessment and collection. Also, the authorities introduced a system of procurement prices for agricultural products negotiated between farmers and the official procuring agency, thus abandoning the system of compulsory delivery quotas to state agencies at officially set prices. By early 1981 official procurement prices for paddy were virtually aligned with free market prices.

Although it is too early to make a complete assessment of the impact of the reforms on economic performance, progress in some areas can be clearly identified. Following an increase of 6 per cent in 1979, real GDP rose by 10 per cent in 1980, largely as a result of good rice crops and increased activity in some state enterprises because of an improved supply situation. Domestic rice production in the 1980-81 crop year increased by 15 per cent, so that for the first time in years foodgrain self-sufficiency will be nearly achieved in 1981. The liberalization of border trade increased the incentives to production and trade and helped to alleviate the shortages of raw materials and other inputs. On the budget side domestic revenue increased from the equivalent of 8 per cent to 14.5 per cent of GDP between 1979 and 1980, largely as a result of improved profitability of the state enterprises; after foreign financing the budget showed a small surplus, in contrast with the heavy recourse to bank financing in previous years. Particularly noteworthy on the expenditure side were the sharp reduction in subsidies and the increased share of development outlays, which rose from 7 per cent to 15 per cent of GNP between 1979 and 1980.

In other respects, however, economic performance in 1980 was not as favourable as hoped for

particularly the balance of payments. Although the new policies were supported by an increase in imports to revive activity and reduce inflationary pressures and a widening of the current account deficit was envisaged on that count in 1980, the deficit was larger than expected for two reasons. First, export earnings fell by 13 per cent in 1980, due to the closure of the border between Laos and Thailand in June-August 1980 which coincided with the seasonal peak in export activity; other factors for the poor export performance were the softening of foreign demand for timber and the adverse impact on production and exports resulting from the vacillations of official policies as to the precise role of the private sector in exporting. Second, import prices, particularly of oil products, rose sharply in 1980. As a result, the current account deficit increased from \$84 million to \$128 in 1980—that is, from 31 per cent to 44 per cent of GDP. The overall balance of payments, which had shown a surplus in both 1978 and 1979, was in deficit by \$11 million, and gross external reserves fell to \$14 million at the end of 1980, or the equivalent of 11 per cent of total imports, compared with 28 per cent at the end of 1979. Meanwhile, net reserves declined to \$5 million.



# NWFP GOVERNOR RAPS CRITICS OF AFGHAN REFUGEE PRESENCE

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 25 Sep 81 pp 1, 10

[Text] Peshawar, Sept 24: The NWFP governor, Lt Gen Fazle Haq, said that those elements who were spreading baseless propaganda to create differences between the local population and the Afghan refugees currently lodged in Pakistan were neither sincere to Pakistan nor Islam.

Addressing a mammoth public meeting in Chitral today, he said that a handful of elements were criticising the presence of refugees in Pakistan to fulfil their nefarious designs. He reminded the people that these elements were related to those saboteurs who were sitting now in Kabul for subversive activities. This act of theirs, he said, spoke of itself how friendly they were in the innocent people of Pakistan.

He declared amid applause that majority of the people of Pakistan would neither be misled baseless and concocted propaganda nor fell prey to their trap.

Gen Fazle Haq said that the Afghan refugees during their stay in Pakistan had exhibited exemplary character and discipline and were adherent to Islamic tenets. During the last three years, no major case or any moral offence or heinous crime had been reported.

He said that the resistance being put up in Afghanistan was an ideological war for the cause of Islam and the whole Muslim fraternity of the world. If this failed, communism would prevail all over the South Asian subcontinent.

The provincial Governor was optimistic that the Afghan refugees would return to their homeland one day honourably and with dignity. The Islamic identity of Afghanistan would be restored by the grace of God, he added.

Referring to the campaign of vilification by the Indian leaders and the propaganda of the Indian Press against strengthening of Pakistan defence capability, he said that the Indian leaders should realise the fact Pakistan did not intend to go on war with India. Nor any threat was posed to her from Pakistan, but instead a militarily strong Pakistan was in the interest of India, he said.

The recent developments in Afghanistan were taking historical and political background, he added.

The Governor said that the supply of arms to Pakistan would not upset the military balance in the subcontinent. He said that the real motive of this campaign by India was to influence the pro-Indian and Jewish lobby in the West to create obstacle for Pakistan. Pakistan had always tried to keep bilateral and good relations with all its neighbours, he maintained.

About the package deal with USA, Gen. Fazle Haq said that this agreement was reached on Pakistan's terms without compromising on principles and with no shift in the stand regarding Non-aligned Movement, Islamic Conference and peaceful nuclear programme.

Earlier, the Chairman of Chitral District Council, Mr Khurshid Ali, in his welcome address, lauded the policies of the present Government and assured it of unflinching support on behalf of the people of Chitral. He also thanked the Governor for his special interest in the speedy development of Chitral.--APP

CSO: 4220/17

## IMPORT SUBSTITUTION MAKES SLOW PROGRESS

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 16 Sep 81 pp 1, 5

[Article by Amanullah Hussain]

[Text]

The progress made by the import substitution in the manufacturing sector of Pakistan is either glaringly inadequate or totally conspicuous by its absence. Significantly these are the areas the development of which is vital to the people onto the next stage of industrial maturity and are thus of critical importance.

These include chemicals, transport equipment, capital goods, heavy electrical machinery and electronics. In view of their obvious importance these sectors deserve high priority and no efforts should be spared in their promotion.

Study on the review of import substitution by the Economic and Research Department of Pakistan Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation (PICIC) points out that the progress in the import substitution in steel, fertilizers and polyester fibre has, however, been outstanding.

According to the study, success is also striking in the traditional preserves of the private sector—large, medium and small. Among the large industries, the most notable examples are sugar and cement. In both of these, adequate capacity is being lined up which will not only ensure self-sufficiency but also permit some exports as in the past.

In the case of paper and board the country remains dependent on imports from 30 to 100 per cent as of 1979-80. Yet another example of the same is the pharmaceutical industry

where progress in import substitution is nominal.

The entire chemical industry and the off-shoots with the notable exceptions of fertilizers and polyester fibre, present a picture of lagging growth. A petrochemical complex is still a pipe-dream, despite several efforts in the past. Even in the conventional chemicals, the gaps are too numerous to mention.

In the transport equipment sector—automotive, railways and shipping—the progress appears to be unimpressive. In the automotive group, the trend is strongly towards the import of ready-to-drive vehicles in preference to local manufacture or assembly. This is true, the study says, not only of cars, buses and trucks but also two wheelers. Assembly of two wheelers established on the premise of gradual but definite deletion of imported components have failed to perform according to expectations.

It is, however, in the manufacture of elementary electronic products like transistors, diodes and other components where the performance is far below the potential. Almost all the requirements of components and most of the finished products are imported, causing a heavy drain on the scarce foreign exchange resources.

The study points out lack of progress in this field in Pakistan and is in sharp contrast to the strides taken by India, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and several other developing countries.

# HEALTH FACILITIES FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES DESCRIBED

Karachi DAWN in English 24 Sep 81 p 4

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 23: The Federal Government with the financial assistance of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, is providing health, education and drinking water facilities to Afghan refugees.

A sum of Rs 17.5 million was earmarked during 1980 out of which 10.5 million were utilised by the Government of NWFP and the remaining amount by the Baluchistan Government for implementing a comprehensive plan for providing health facilities to Afghan refugees.

Presently, 40 static and 20 mobile dispensaries in NWFP and 15 static and 10 mobile dispensaries (with 5 ambulances for quick transportation of serious patients are operating in Baluchistan.

Some private national and international voluntary agencies are also operating 24 mobile units and a few static dispensaries for providing medical care to Afghan refugees. For the current calendar year an amount of Rs 74.3 million has been earmarked for providing one medical team for each group of 10,000 refugees.

For providing proper educational facilities to the Afghan refugees' children, 50 tented primary schools in NWFP and 28 in Baluchistan have been established. In all, 8769 students were enrolled in these schools.

A sum of Rs 1.5 million was utilised in this sector during 1980. An amount of Rs 16.5 million has been earmarked for raising the number of tented primary schools from 79 to 286 by the end of 1991 and ensuring adequate staff for all the schools. Moreover, an education cell for Afghan refugees has already been established in NWFP.

A comprehensive programme for providing clean, hygienic and potable drinking water to Afghan refugees at an expenditure of Rs 21.43 million has been implemented resulting in the completion of 23 water supply schemes. For the current calendar year 1981, an amount of Rs 31,313 million has been allocated for enabling each refugee residing in a refugee tented village access to 10 litres of water per day. The local population will also be benefitted from these drinking water supply facilities.

It may be mentioned here that the livestock, brought by the Afghan refugees, coupled with the local livestock population, has caused considerable pressure on our grazing grounds, pastures, vegetation and forests in NWFP and Baluchistan.

With a view to rejuvenating these areas the Government of Pakistan with the financial assistance of UNHCR, is implementing a comprehensive regeneration/reafforestation programme. Under the programme five small schemes of regeneration/reafforestation at a cost Rs 4.5 million in Baluchistan and two schemes costing Rs 39.6 million in NWFP are being implemented. In addition some flood irrigation schemes for improving grazing facilities are also being implemented in Baluchistan at an estimated cost of Rs 2 millions.--APP

CSO: 4220/17



# WHEAT STORAGE CAPACITY TO BE INCREASED

Karachi DAWN in English 24 Sep 81 p 6

[Text] Hyderabad, Sept 23. The Governor of Sind, Lt-Gen S. M. Abbasi, said here today that Pakistan had attained complete self-sufficiency in wheat and was even in a position to export 50,000 tons of wheat out of the surplus production.

The Governor, who was the chief guest on the occasion of wheat prize distribution ceremony at Circuit House here this morning said, however, the Federal Government for the time being had decided against the export of wheat till such time that ample reserves of wheat had been stored.

He disclosed that at present the storage capacity of wheat was 4,75,000 tons and efforts would be made to increase this capacity. The Governor said that during the last two years 16 grain godowns had been constructed and arrangements were under way to store additional 8,000 tons of wheat.

In addition to this, the Governor said the National Logistic Cell had also undertaken the construction of godowns to store one lakh tons of wheat. He said the work on this project was in progress and so far almost one-fourth of the work had been completed. He said it was most imperative that all precautionary measures should be taken to protect our most precious agricultural products for any damage to these precious commodities would be a great national loss. The Governor said all efforts were being made on national level that Pakistan should become self-sufficient in the entire range of food grain items.

The Governor said apart from rice there had been some increase in wheat production in the Sind province, and he exhorted the growers to use scientific technology which he said would go a long way in increasing the production.

He disclosed that there had been a record increase in rice production and expressed confidence that there would be an appreciable increase in the production of cotton crop this year.

Later, the Governor gave away prizes to the best growers. The Governor's Shield for wheat production was awarded to Sukkur District. He also distributed gold and silver medals among the best growers.

Earlier the provincial Minister for Food, Sardar Ghulam Mohammad Maher, presented an address of welcome to the Governor.

CSO: 4220/17

BRIEFS

TENT VILLAGES FOR AFGHANS--Islamabad, Sept 15--New tentage villages have been established for the newly arrived Afghan refugees in Hazara division as well as in tribal agencies. This follows suspension of registration of new arrivals from Afghanistan in some of the district of NWFP where the number of Afghan refugees has reached the saturation point. Quoting an official spokesman, Radio Pakistan reported that new tentage villages have been established in the districts of Abbottabad, Mansehra and Kohistan as well as in the Orakzai and Khyber agencies where the newly arrived refugees from Afghanistan are being registered. PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 16 Sep 81 p 4]

JOBLESS GRADUATES OF BALUCHISTAN--Quetta, Sept 27--The Baluchistan Unemployed Graduates Cell, Ministry of Communications, Islamabad, has directed all unemployed graduates from Baluchistan to assemble in Railway Institute, Quetta, on 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th September along with original and one photostat of domicile and birth certificate, national identity card and registration card of Unemployed Graduate Cell (if any). Those who are in service are not eligible for interview. Recruitment teams from Federal Ministries and Federal autonomous bodies have reached Quetta for the purpose.--APP/PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 28 Sep 81 p 8]

CSO: 4220/17

## BACKGROUND OF NEW MUSLIM PATRIARCH NOTED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 Aug 81 p 10

[Text] **T**HE ELECTION of a Muslim leader in Thailand, known officially by the title of Chula Rajmontri, seems to be a complicated issue.

The procedure is in fact simple. Muslim leaders from 26 provinces in the country come together and exercise their franchise. The latest election was held last Monday when a long-time religious teacher, Prasert Mahamad, was elected.

A candidate should be proposed by one of the electing members and seconded by at least another two. Prasert, 54, was the only one who met the requirement during the election at the Interior Ministry last Monday.

Though it was not a direct election by Muslims throughout the country — it was done with the consent of Muslim leaders who are respected by their "subordinates" in their respective provinces.

The balloting was closely witnessed by senior officials from the Interior Ministry, Education Ministry,

the Islam Central Committee of Thailand, the Royal Household Bureau and the Parliament.

There is not law or regulation concerning the election of the Chula Rajmontri but this is the traditional process that has been followed.

The same procedure was applied to the previous election about 32 years ago when the late Tuan Suwannasart was chosen.

This was the second election in the past 30 years and Prasert is the eighth Muslim leader in Thailand's history.

Chula Rajmontri, the leader of Muslims throughout Thailand, has the major responsibility of providing advice on religious affairs to the Religious Affairs Department of the Education Ministry.

Formerly, the Chula Rajmontri used to be the direct secretary and subordinate of the King and acted on the King's behalf in religious affairs of the Muslims.

The authority of the Muslim leader changed when a royal decree was issued in

1948, assigning him to advise the Religious Affairs Department.

The election is approved finally by His Majesty the King. Prasert, the Chula Rajmontri-designate, will therefore assume his full authority after His Majesty's final approval.

Chula Rajmontri also assumes simultaneously the post of chairman of the Islam Central Committee of Thailand.

The committee also provides consultation to the Interior and Education Ministries on Muslim religious affairs.

Prasert, the Chula Rajmontri-elect, is a very religious-minded person and could read the Koran — the holy book of the Muslims in Arabic — when he was only seven years old.

A father of seven children now he seriously studied Islam Arabic and Malay and was capable of giving religious lecture when he was only 19 years old.

He is currently manager and director of a Muslim school in Klongton. He has been a senior official in the office of the late Chula Rajmontri

before he was elected, to the top post.

Undersecretary of State for Interior, Pisarn Mulsartsathorn, said he would discuss improving the relations between Thai Buddhists and Thai Muslims with the new Chula Rajmontri after he was officially appointed by His Majesty the King.

Their relations are currently very good but they should be further strengthened, he said.

The election of the new Muslim leader was held following the death of the late Tuan Suwannasart who held the post since 1948. He passed away on March 22 this year.

# MILITARY RESERVE FORCES PLANNED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 15 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Text]

THE army will this year embark on a programme aimed at readying more than seven million military reserve men for a possible outbreak of war, Chief of the Reserve

Affairs Department Maj Gen Mana Rattanakoses said yesterday.

An informed source said that the army had completed the blueprint for the programme on December 8 last year after it had called up a number of military reserve men for training on trial basis last year.

The programme was initiated on grounds that security situation of the country was vulnerable to external threats and the active forces might be insufficient to defend the country, according to the source.

It said that the programme was aimed at preparing the military reserve forces to fight together with the army when it was necessary.

The military reserve forces would also be educated on

the correct political line, economic knowledge, and social problems under the "National Military Reserve Programme", according to the source.

He added that the forces would be educated on the democratic ideology in the field of politics and trained to resort to cooperatives as a means to solve the economic problems facing the country.

On the social front, the military reserve forces would be ordered to help police forces in curbing crimes, according to the source.

Under the programme, a chairman of the military reserve force, a national committee, provincial committees, and district committees would be set up to command the "paramilitary forces".

Maj Gen Mana Rattanakoses said Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda and he would hold a press conference at the Army Auditorium on coming Monday to announce the programme.

He said that the premier would make it clear during the press conference that the structure of the reserve forces would be different from

those of village scouts and defence volunteers.

Discharged soldiers would also be included in the programme, according to Maj Gen Mana.

## MUSLIMS ASK RELIEF FROM TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 28 Aug 81 p 3

[Text] **OVER 380 THAI Muslims rallied at the Communications Ministry on Rajdamnern Avenue yesterday morning to call for the abrogation of a ruling, that restricts their annual pilgrimage to Mecca.**

Their representatives also protested during their meeting with the Communications Minister Adm Amorn Sirigaya the monopoly in organizing the pilgrimage to Mecca by the Union Trading Co.

Vichien Pan-in and Booncherd Sonasi, two of the representatives, claimed that many Thai Muslims had been arrested after they had tried to organize the pilgrimage on their own.

The Thanom Government on April 15, 1972 imposed Order No III which prohibits group pilgrimage by Thai Muslim without permission from the Communications Ministry.

The order does not allow Thai Muslims to go on pilgrimage to

Mecca in groups exceeding 10 people.

However, the ministry has authorized the Union Trading Co as the sole agent in organizing such pilgrimage.

The company reportedly charges the pilgrims 19,500 baht each for the annual trip to Mecca.

Vichien said some of the pilgrims had tried to organize the trip but were arrested by police, who were tipped-off by the company.

At least five of

them have been arrested so far and the Saudi Embassy in Bangkok had also denied them visa.

There are approximately 3,000-5,000 Thai Muslims going to Mecca every year.

Vichien said they could organize their own pilgrimage at a lesser expense of 14,000 baht per head.

Amorn said after the meeting with Vichien and Booncherd that the Communications Ministry will allow new companies to register as agents in

organizing the pilgrimage.

Vichien said yesterday that letters airing the Thai Muslims' grievance had been sent to Premier Prem Tinsulanonda, senators and MPs.

The Communications Ministry is expected to take up the issue today.

- The committee responsible for dealing with Thai Muslims going on pilgrimage to Mecca of the Communications Ministry will meet today to discuss the problem.



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